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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency the Rt. Hon. Sir FREEMAN FREEMAN-THOMAS, BARON WILLINGDON OF RATTON, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E. Took his seat on 10th April 1919.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The hon. Sir CHARLES GEORGE TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on 17th December 1920 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Central Subjects—
- Archæology and epigraphy.
- Customs (including trade).
- Income-tax.
- Marine.
- Meteorology.
- Opium.
- Post Office.
- Salt.
- Telegraphs and telephones.

Conduct of business in Council.
Finance.
General (i.e., questions of a general nature which cannot be allocated to any particular department).
Government Servants' Conduct Rules.
Indian Civil Service—Questions other than leave and appointments.
Move of Government to the hills.
Office procedure.
Pensions.
Petition rules—General questions.
Publicity including Editors' table.
Public Services Commission and service questions including examinations and special tests and land returns.
Reforms—not being legislative.
Warrant of precedence.

2. The hon. Sir ARTHUR ROWLAND KNAPP, K.C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Home Member. Took his seat on 1st April 1922 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Administration report.
Agency and Laccadives.
Air-craft.
Arms and explosives.
Civil supplies.
Criminal Tribes Act.
Depressed classes.
Ecclesiastical.
Emigration.
European education.
Foreigners.
Forests (including cinchona).
Government Houses.
Jails.
Labour (including factories).
Malabar affairs (including law and order in Malabar).
Military.
Passports.
Pilgrims to the Hedjaz.
Political (other than matters relating to Indian States).
Press and registration of books.
Railways.
Reformatories.
Rewards for saving life and property.
Staff and household of His Excellency the Governor.
Survey, Land Records and Settlement.

3. The hon. Mr. Chetput Pattabhirama Ramaswami Ayyar, C.I.E., Law Member. Took his seat on 12th February 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Breach of Contract Act.
Certificate of age and qualification.
Civil Justice.
Criminal Justice (including petitions for mercy).
Elections.
Fortnightly report.
Electricity (including hydro-electric schemes).
Irrigation.
Landlord and Tenant.
Legislative.
Magistracy.
Miscellaneous Judicial heads.
Police including Criminal Investigation Department.
Report on matters of political and administrative importance.
Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
State prisoners.
Translators to Government.

4. The hon. Raja V. Vasudeva Raja, C.I.E., Valiya Nambidi of Kollengode, Revenue Member. Took his seat on 1st November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Boilers.
Census.
Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks.
Court of Wards and zamindars.
Economic condition (including prices and wages).
Escheats.
Famine.
Land Revenue.
Mines.
Pounds and special funds.
Stamps.
Treasure trove.
Wild animals.
Yeomiahs and hereditary pensions.

Ministers.

1. The hon. the Raja of Panagal, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Adulteration of foodstuffs.
Local.
Medical.
Municipal.
Light-feeder Railways and Tramways.
Public Health.
Religious and Charitable Endowments.

2. The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro, *Kt.*, Minister for Education and Public Works. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Education.
Excise.
Public Works.
Registration.

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai Avargal, Minister for Development. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Agriculture.
Co-operative Societies.
Fisheries.
Industries.
Veterinary.
Weights and Measures

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMIKANNU PILLAI, C.I.E., I.S.O.

Deputy President.

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI.

Panel of Chairmen for the First Session.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD.
Mr. M. RATNASWAMI.
Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR.
Mr. K. V. RAMACHARI.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. C. SATAGOPA ACHARIYAR Avargal, B.A.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name of constituency.
1. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur ...	Madura, Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam M. Urban.
2. Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur ...	Ceded Districts M. Rural.
3. Abdul Razack Sahib, Khan Sahib, Saiyid Diwan.	Central Districts M. Rural.
4. Abdul Wahab Sahib, Munshi ...	Northern Circars M. Rural.
5. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib Bahadur.	North Arcot *cum* Chingleput M. Rural.
6. Abdulla Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Haji, Khan Bahadur.	South Kanara M. Rural.
7. Adinarayana Chetti, T. ...	North Arcot N.-M. Rural.
8. Anjaneyulu, P.	Guntur N.-M. Rural.
9. Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, S. R. Y.	North Landholders II.
10. Appavu Chettiyar, D.	Salem N.-M. Rural.
11. Ari Gowder	Nilgiris N.-M. Rural.
12. Arpudaswami Udayar, S. ...	Tanjore *cum* Trichinopoly Indian Christian.
13. Arumuga Nadar, P. K. S. ...	NOMINATED for Nadars.
14. Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	Vizagapatam N.-M. Urban.
15. Biswanath Das, Sriman ...	Ganjam N.-M. Rural.
16. Bradford Leslie	NOMINATED. (Special Member for the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill.)
17. Chidambara Nadar, A. ...	Madura N.-M. Rural.
18. Congreve, Mr. C. R. T. ...	Madras Planters.
19. Cruz Fernandez, Rao Bahadur.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly I.Ch.
20. Davies, R. W.	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Finance Department.)

Name of member.	Name of constituency.
21. Davis, J. A.	NOMINATED for Anglo-Indians.
22. Devendrudu, N.	NOMINATED for Adi-Andhras.
23. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Salem N.-M. Rural.
24. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Rao Bahadur P. C.	Guntur N.-M. Rural.
25. Gangaraju, M.	Kistna N.-M. Rural.
26. Gopala Menon, C.	S. I. Chamber of Commerce.
27. Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V. ...	NOMINATED for Mukkuvans or Fishermen.
28. Guruswami, L. C.	NOMINATED for Arundhateyas.
29. Hawkins, P.	NOMINATED. (Special Member for the Irrigation Bill.)
30. Kesava Pillai, Diwan Bahadur P. (Deputy President).	Anantapur N.-M. Rural.
31. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura *cum* Trichinopoly M. Rural.
32. Knapp, K.C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Arthur.	EX-OFFICIO.
33. Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah N.-M. Rural.
34. Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.	Nellore N.-M. Rural.
35. Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M. (Chairman).	Malabar *cum* Anjengo N.-M. Rural.
36. Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	North Arcot N.-M. Rural.
37. Kuppuswami, J.	Guntur N.-M. Rural.
38. Leech, Arthur J.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
39. Legh, E. W., C.I.E., I.C.S. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.)
40. Madhava Raja, V.	Malabar *cum* Anjengo N.-M. Rural.
41. Madhavan Nayar, C.	NOMINATED. (Advocate-General.)
42. Madurai, Hony. Lt.	Do. for Adi-Dravidas.
43. Mahabala Hegde, B.	South Kanara N.-M. Rural.
44. Mallesappa, T.	NOMINATED for Lingayats.
45. Marakkayar, V. Hamid Sultan.	Tanjore M. Rural.
46. Marthandam Pillai, P. N. ...	Tinnevelly N.-M. Rural.
47. Maruthavanam Pillai, C. ...	Tanjore N.-M. Rural.
48. Mathai, Dr. John	NOMINATED.
49. Moidu Sahib, T. M.	Malabar *cum* Anjengo M. Rural.
50. Moore, P. L.	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department.)
51. Moosa Sait Sahib, Muhammad ...	Madras M. Urban.
52. Muhammad Sahib Bahadur, T. N.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly M. Rural.
53. Muniswami Nayudu, B. ...	Chittoor N.-M. Rural.
54. Murugappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur A. M. M.	Nattukottai Nagarathars.
55. Muttayya Mudaliyar, S. ...	Tanjore N.-M. Rural.
56. Muttayya Mudaliyar, C. ...	Chingleput N.-M. Rural.
57. Muttu Chettiyar, P. C.	Ramnad N.-M. Rural.
58. Narasimhacharlu, Rai Bahadur T. M.	Cuddapah N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name of constituency.
59. Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.	Vizagapatam N.-M. Rural.
60. Narayanan Nambudripad, O. M.	NOMINATED for Nambudiris.
61. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Madras N.-M. Urban.
62. Nicholson, C.	Madras Trades.
63. Obalesappa, B.	NOMINATED for Maruthuvakulars (Barbers).
64. Paddison, G. F., C.S.I., I.C.S. ...	Do. Commissioner of Labour and Protector of the Depressed classes.
65. Pantulu Ayyar, V. alias Venkatarama Ayyar.	Tanjore N.-M. Rural.
66. Partridge, P. W.	Madras European.
67. Patro, The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. (Minister).	Ganjam N.-M. Rural.
68. Peddiraju, P.	Kistna N.-M. Rural.
69. Pethachi Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S. Rm. Ct.	Trichinopoly N.-M. Rural.
70. Ponnuswami Nayudu, C. ...	Madura N.-M. Rural.
71. Ponnuswami Pillai, K. S. ...	NOMINATED for Protestant Christians.
72. Prabhakaran Tampan, K. ...	West Coast Landholders.
73. Premayya, G.	NOMINATED for Adi-Andhras.
74. Raghuchandra Bellala, A. K. ...	Do. for Jains.
75. Raja of Kollengode, The hon. the.	EX-OFFICIO.
76. Raja of Kurupam ...	Northern Landholders I.
77. Raja of Panagal, The hon. the (Minister).	North Central Landholders.
78. Raja of Ramnad (Chairman) ...	Southern Landholders.
79. Rajan, P. T.	Madura N.-M. Rural.
80. Rajappa Tevar, P. S.	NOMINATED for Kallars.
81. Rama Rao, Rao Sahib U. ...	South Kanara N.-M. Rural.
82. Raman, Rao Bahadur P. ...	NOMINATED for Tiyyas.
83. Ramachandra Reddi, B. ...	Nellore N.-M. Rural.
84. Ramachari, K. V. (Chairman) ...	Madura N.-M. Urban.
85. Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore N.-M. Rural.
86. Ramalinga Reddi, C.	Chittoor N.-M. Rural.
87. Ramaswami Ayyar, The hon. Mr. C. P.	EX-OFFICIO.
88. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, A. ...	Chingleput N.-M. Rural.
89. Rameswara Rao, G. ...	Anantapur N.-M. Rural.
90. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ...	Bellary N.-M. Rural.
91. Ratnaswami, M. (Chairman) ...	Central Districts Indian Christian.
92. Rencontre, A. E.	Anglo-Indian.
93. Roche Victoria, J. L. P. ...	NOMINATED. (Special Member for the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill.)
94. Sagaram, P.	NOMINATED for Setti-Balijas.
95. Saldanha, J. A.	West Coast Indian Christian.
96. Samuel, J. D.	Northern Circars Indian Christian.

Name of member.	Name of constituency.
97. Sarabha Reddi, K.	Kurnool N.-M. Rural.
98. Sarvarayudu, K.	Kistna N.-M. Rural.
99. Sriman Sasibhushana Rath Mahasayo.	Ganjam N.-M. Rural.
100. Satyamurti, S.	Madras University.
101. Seetayya, M.	Kistna N.-M. Rural.
102. Seturatnam Ayyar, M. R. ...	Trichinopoly N.-M. Rural.
103. Sitarama Reddi, K.	South Arcot N.-M. Rural.
104. Siva Rao, P.	Bellary N.-M. Rural.
105. Sivagnanam Pillai, The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. (Minister).	Tinnevelly N.-M. Rural.
106. Srinivasan, R.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
107. Srinivasa Ayyangar, R. ...	South Arcot N.-M. Rural.
108. Subbarayan, Dr. P.	South Central Landholders.
109. Subrahmanya Pillai, K. Chavadi.	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah N.-M. Urban.
110. Sundaramurti, P. V. S.... ...	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
111. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.	Cocanada N.-M. Urban.
112. Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam N.-M. Urban.
113. Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O.	Madras N.-M. Urban.
114. Tireman, H.	NOMINATED. (Chief Conservator of Forests.)
115. Todhunter, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Charles.	EX-OFFICIO.
116. Tyagaraya Chetti, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir P.	Madras N.-M. Urban.
117. Uppi Sahib, K.	Malabar *cum* Anjengo M. Rural.
118. Veerian, R.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
119. Vellingiri Gounder, V. C. ...	Coimbatore N.-M. Rural.
120. Venkatachala Padayachi, K. ...	South Arcot N.-M. Rural.
121. Venkatachalam Chetti, S. ...	Madras N.-M. Urban.
122. Venkatarama Sastriyar, T. R. ..	NOMINATED. (Special Member for the Irrigation Bill.)
123. Venkatareddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Rai Bahadur Sir K.	Godavari N.-M. Rural.
124. Venkataramana Ayyangar, C. V.	Coimbatore N.-M. Rural.
125. Venkataranga Reddi, Rao Bahadur C.	Kurnool N.-M. Rural.
126. Venkatapati Razu, P. C. ...	Vizagapatam N.-M. Rural.
127. Venkataratnam, B.	Godavari N.-M. Rural.
128. Vijiaraghava Mudaliyar, W. ...	North Arcot N.-M. Rural.
129. Virappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. K. A. C. T.	Ramnad N.-M. Rural.
130. Wood, C. E.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
131. Yahya Ali Sahib, Janab Muhammad.	East Coast M. Rural.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

First Session of the Second Council under the Government of India Act, 1919.

VOLUME XVI.

Tuesday, 5th February 1924.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 o'clock.

I

NEW PRESIDENT.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur LEWIS DOMINIC SWAMIKANNU PILLAI Avargal, C.I.E., I.S.O., the newly appointed President, took the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat in the Presidential Chair amidst applause.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Mr. President : Before we proceed with the business of the day, I ask your permission, on behalf of the Members of this House, to offer you our very sincere congratulations upon the high office for which you have been selected, not yet by the vote of the Members of this House themselves, but on their behalf by His Excellency the Governor.

" It is only a few short weeks since we made our farewells to our late President, when the whole House joined with me in appraising the qualities of the ideal Speaker and deciding that he had them in full measure. And having regard to all that was said on that occasion, I can understand that any one who takes his place will do so with a feeling that it will be an extraordinarily difficult place to fill.

" But I believe that I shall have the whole House with me when I say that out of the gentlemen available to fill his place no better choice could possibly have been made than that which has been made by His Excellency the Governor. You have already shown us that you possess many of those qualities—courage, industry, patience, sympathy and humour. You have ever been ready to help, and more ready to listen than to speak, and you have preserved an attitude of complete detachment from party politics. You have given much study to the securing of a complete mastery of the forms of the House, have a scrupulous regard to them, and will, I am sure, display a stern sense of justice in applying them. Nor can we forget your strenuous work on our behalf in the British House of Commons, where it has been said that you were so assiduous in your attendance in the particular corner you had chosen for yourself that you came to be regarded almost as part of the furniture of the building (laughter). I will refer only to one of the results. You came back resolved to teach us among other things, to make question time more lively. If one may judge by the number and the nature of the questions on the paper to-day, you have succeeded in this object beyond your and our wildest hopes or expectations.

[Sir Charles Todhunter] [5th February 1924

"And while I feel that I shall have the whole of the House with me in congratulating you on your accession to your great office, and in stating the belief that you will fulfil its many and difficult functions in the best possible manner, I feel also that I can assure you that you will have the assistance of all sections of the House in performing those functions, in maintaining its rights, privileges, honours and dignities, and in accepting and enforcing your rulings and supporting the authority which by common consent you will be exercising for the common good. I need not remind the House that the dignity of the Chair is the dignity of the House itself, and that the dignity, the respect and the honour in which it is held, is the foundation on which the respect and the authority of the Council itself must depend.

"Sir, in the times in which we live, your great office is encumbered by heavy and growing responsibilities, but it offers opportunities that are equally great, opportunities of building up the traditions and the conventions of a greater body than that over which you now preside. You enter upon it with the most heartfelt good will and the most sanguine hopes of the whole House and I feel sure that when the time comes for you to lay it down it will be said by common consent that you found foundations well and truly laid and have builded on them equally truly and equally well." (Applause.)

The hon. the Raja of Panagal:—" Mr. President, I have very great pleasure to join my hon. Colleague in offering congratulations to you on this occasion of your assuming of the office of the President of this House. Sir, it is only the other day when we last met that we gave expression to our sense of appreciation of the successful career of Sir P. Rajagopalachariyar as the President of this Council. To-day you have been chosen to the high office. A better choice, I dare say, is impossible to think of. Your superior intellectuality, your high character and your study and your experience will enable you to carry on the duties appertaining to the high office with distinction. I have no doubt, Sir, that under your able guidance this House will have a brilliant career, and I am sure that you will maintain the excellent traditions which your worthy predecessor has established."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—" Sir, Mr. President, may I request you to allow me to associate myself with the Leader of the House in offering my hearty congratulations on your elevation to the position of the President of this august body? Sir, the choice of His Excellency could not have fallen on a better person. I have been watching your career ever since you were the Latin Professor of the Presidency College—even then a reputed scholar. Since then you were dubbed an Indian Webster. Your erudition, your experience in the administration of the varied departments with which you were connected as a civil servant, your acquaintance with parliamentary procedure when you were in England recently, your knowledge of law, and, above all, the work you have been doing in this Legislative Department for the last three years, best fit you for the honour of the position you are occupying to-day. Sir, I hope you will zealously maintain the traditions left by your predecessor. I hope you will discharge your duties independent of and without caring for the frown or favour of even His Excellency or the Members of his Cabinet.

"Now, Sir, I request your permission to extend my congratulations to your Secretary. I learn, Sir, that Mr. R. V. Krishna Ayyar was brought into the Secretariat solely for his legal knowledge. I have been hearing of

him as an amiable and good-natured gentleman. My personal contact with him teaches me that the more one knows him the more one will love him. He is really an acquisition to this Council."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Hear, hear."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, let me also crave your indulgence to offer my congratulations to the newly appointed Assistant Secretary. Sir, this is a matter of personal gratification to me ; for, we are class-mates and intimate friends. But this title comes to him without equivalent remuneration. I hope the hon. the Finance Member will kindly look to it."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the hon. the Leader of the House and giving expression to our feelings of gratification on your appointment as the President of this Council. I have a hope that with the excellent precedent which has been set before you and the splendid opportunities you have had of working with our ex-President who distinguished himself so ably, it will be possible for you to lay the foundations of constitutional practice deeper and even show definite improvement in various directions. Let me also inform this House that I had an opportunity of working with our distinguished President, not as President of this Council, but as president of a district board. If I can recall to my memory the way in which he succeeded in satisfying the desires of almost all members concerned, if I can bear personal testimony to the fact that he did not give on any occasion any slightest offence to any one individual in the House, I am quite certain that with the increased opportunities he has had, he will be able to produce a much better and a marvellous record in this Council. Time will come when, at the close of his career, we shall be in a position to judge more of the work and offer our thanks for the distinguished services which are still in store for us.

" I believe I will be within my rights if I make a suggestion before I close, and it is this : that the chief and the only consideration which everyone will have is how far the rights and the privileges of the Members of this House are safeguarded. We have every hope and confidence that we are quite safe in your hands and we will come out much better in the future than in the past."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sure hon. Members will understand me when I say that I am exceedingly indebted to the hon. the Leader of the House, to the hon. the Minister for Self-Government, to Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar and to the hon. Member for Nellore, Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao, for the very kind words with which they have welcomed me. It is hardly possible for me to say anything more because in the first place I have had no notice that these remarks were going to be made. I will avail myself, however, of this opportunity to say one thing. And that is in reply to the kind words that have been said with regard to my Secretary and my Assistant Secretary who are still less able than I am to speak for themselves. On their behalf as well as on my own I thank the hon. Members who have made such kind references to us."

II

POINT OF ORDER REGARDING THE HOLDING OF THE PRESENT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, may I submit to your ruling a point of order ? My point is that this meeting is not properly convened, and I will give my

reasons for it. If you will kindly turn to section 72-B, clauses 2 and 3 of the Government of India Act, you will find that they read thus :

'(2) A Governor may appoint such times and places for holding the sessions of his Legislative Council as he thinks fit and may also, by notification or otherwise, prorogue the Council.'

'(3) Any meeting of a Governor's Legislative Council may be adjourned by the person presiding.'

"You will remember that you first gave notice to us for a meeting of the Council on the 28th last and I believe two or three days before that we had notice that that meeting was postponed and a fresh notice was issued for the meeting of the Council to-day. My submission is that when once a meeting is convened it is competent only to the person who is presiding over the meeting to adjourn it and it is not open to the Governor or the Government, or even to the President when he is not actually presiding at the meeting, to adjourn the meeting. I have also to inform this House that this is the first time in the history of the Madras Legislative Council working under these Standing Orders that a meeting for which a notice was given was adjourned without that meeting being summoned and a fresh notice issued. Since it is a matter that seems to be very important whether the President can go on adjourning under such circumstances, I request, Sir, that you will kindly give your considered ruling on this matter."

The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"Mr. President, Sir, my answer to it is this, that every meeting after a prorogation or dissolution has to be notified by the Governor himself. The last notice that was given must be taken to have been tentative and it was open to the Governor to suggest another date for the meeting. Once the session is started and the Legislative Council has begun to function, undoubtedly it is a fact that the person presiding can alone exercise that privilege."

11-15 a.m.

The hon. the President :—"With reference to the point of order raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Satyamurti, viz., whether this meeting is properly convened, is being properly held and can properly go on with the business appointed for it, I have absolutely no doubt that we are properly met and that we can go on with the agenda. If the hon. Member wishes me to consider any other point, e.g., as to who can convene a meeting and who can change a date once fixed, I shall deal with such matters later on when and as they arise."

III

ALLOTMENT OF DAYS FOR NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I wish to raise another point of order. As the non-official Members of the Council have not been given the number of days which they are entitled to for the transaction of private business"

The hon. the President :—"I think this point of order will come properly later on. We have to go on with the orders of the day at present and after question time, if the same question is raised, I shall certainly be prepared to consider the same."

Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"May I do it immediately after question time?"

The hon. the President :—"Yes, after question time."

IV

NEW MEMBERS.

The following Members were then sworn in :—

Mr. PERCY HAWKINS.
M.R.Ry. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR Avargal.
Sriman SASIBHUSHANA RATH Mahasayo.

V

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions and answers shall be arranged in order of subjects.

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Agriculture.

Agricultural propaganda work in Ramnad.

57 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any agricultural officers in the Ramnad district to do propagandist work in agriculture ; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to appoint such officers in the immediate future ?

A.—(*a*) There are two agricultural demonstrators and one assistant agricultural demonstrator working in the Ramnad district.

(*b*) Lack of staff and funds prevent any more men being posted to the district at present.

The area under cultivation in the Bellary district.

58 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) the area fixed in B.P. No. 2299, dated 1st November 1919, as the area normally under cultivation in the Bellary district under first and second crops ; and

(2) the actual areas, respectively, under cultivation under first and second crops in each of the subsequent years ?

A.—(1) 2,384,660 acres, of which 34,750 acres were fixed as the area cropped more than once.

(2) The information asked for is contained in the following statement :—

Year.	Area sown.	Area sown more than once.
	ACS.	ACS.
1919–20	2,240,541	34,604
1920–21	2,214,873	24,606
1921–22	2,239,277	94,958
1922–23	2,233,107	33,547

[5th February 1924

Assessment.

Penal assessment in Coimbatore.

59 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that penal assessments were levied from several ryots including one S. K. Sundaram Ayyar of Sulur for alleged encroachments by them on certain lands, and that they protested against the collection of the said assessment and filed suits in the civil court against the District Collector and the Secretary of State;

(ii) whether the said assessment has been given up only this year; and if so, the reasons for the same; and

(iii) whether the Government would be prepared to make an inquiry into the matter and to pay adequate compensation in all reasonable cases?

A.—(i), (ii) & (iii) The Government have no information. A copy of the question will be communicated to the Collector who has got full powers to deal with the case.

Bench Courts.

Bench Courts in the Ramnad district.

60 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of the Bench Courts introduced in the Ramnad district, and the nature of their working; and

(*b*) if their working has been satisfactory whether the Government have any proposals to establish such courts in other parts of the district also?

A.—(*a*) Twenty. The working of these courts is generally speaking satisfactory.

(*b*) A proposal to constitute a Bench of Magistrates for certain villages in the Tiruvadanai taluk has just been sanctioned. There are no other proposals now before the Government.

Cabinet.

Distribution of portfolios among Members of the Cabinet.

61 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the portfolios administered by the several Members of the Cabinet?

A.—The information is given on pages 1–2 of Volume XV—No. 1 of the Proceedings of this Council, dated 26th November 1923.

Civil Suit No. 527 of 1919.

The hon. Mr. Justice Coutts Trotter's judgment in C.S. No. 527 *of* 1919.

62 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether on Mr. Justice Coutts Trotter's judgment in C.S. No. 527 of 1919 delivered on 15th March 1921, the attention of the Madras Government

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was drawn by the Government of India to the matter of engaging particular persons as special public prosecutors and whether the Government of Madras undertook to see that that practice was put an end to ?

A.—No.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, may I ask as a supplementary question whether the hon. the Law Member's attention has been drawn to it ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes."

Congress Office.

Trespass of Policemen into the Congress Office, Trichinopoly.

63 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact—

(*a*) that policemen trespassed into the Congress Office at Trichinopoly and removed the flags therefrom ; and

(*b*) that policemen trespassed into Mr. M. Singaravelu Chettiyar's house in Madras and removed the flags therefrom ;

(ii) if the answers to the above questions be in the affirmative—

(*a*) under whose orders the policemen acted ; and

(*b*) under what provisions of law such orders were issued ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask a question whether the Government will call for the information in view of the importance of the allegations made ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" They have done so."

Court of Wards.

The Sivaganga zamindari.

64 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the present financial condition of the Sivaganga zamindari under the management of the Court of Wards is not satisfactory, and if so, why ;

(*b*) whether the Court of Wards has applied for any loan, and if so, the nature and the extent of the loan ; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any proposal to hand over the management of the zamindari to the direct management of the zamindar in the near future and if so, when ?

A.—(*a*) The estate is unencumbered and perfectly solvent but has taken a temporary loan from the Imperial Bank equivalent to about one-third of its annual income to finance work of permanent benefit to the estate and its tenants.

(*b*) The estate has applied for a Government loan of Rs. 5 lakhs, to complete the repayment of the loan mentioned above and its programme of work.

(*c*) The Government are not prepared to answer this question.

[5th February 1924

Depressed Classes.

Depressed classes pupils in Satyamangalam Elementary Board School and Dharapuram Municipal Schools.

65 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no free school books, slates and pencils are being supplied to the pupils of the depressed classes who are reading in the Satyamangalam Elementary Board School run by the Gobichettipalayam Taluk Board, Coimbatore district; and

(b) whether it is a fact that no free school books, slates and pencils are being supplied to the pupils of the depressed classes reading in the Dharapuram Municipal Elementary Schools, though the Coimbatore District Educational Council made a recommendation to the Dharapuram Municipality to that effect?

A.—The Government have no information but understand that there is no general practice in the Presidency of local bodies supplying free the articles referred to.

District Board.

Election of district board presidents.

66 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what district boards in this Province made representations to the Government during the last three years for the grant of the privilege of electing their presidents, and when; and

(b) what orders were passed by the Government in each of these cases and when and for what reasons?

A.—The following statement is laid on the table:—

Name of district board that applied for the privilege of electing its president.	Date of the resolution of the district board.	Orders of Government with reasons.	Date of Government Order.
Anantapur ..	January 1923 received 4th March 1923.	The President had already been appointed, and the resolution of the board was that the elective privilege should be granted when the Presidentship again fell vacant. No orders were necessary.	8th March 1923.
Bellary ..	July 1922 ..	The Government considered that the condition of the Board required that the President should be nominated by them.	16th October 1922.
Chittoor ..	Date not given.	Do. do.	6th July 1923.

Name of district board that applied for the privilege of electing its president.	Date of the resolution of the district board.	Orders of Government with reasons.	Date of Government Order.
Coimbatore ..	May 1923 ..	The resolution was simply recorded as a President had been appointed before the receipt of the resolution.	22nd June 1923.
Ganjam ..	July 1921 ..	The Government considered that the condition of the Board required that the President should be nominated by them.	12th September 1922.
Godavari (1)..	March 1921..	The privilege was not allowed as the taluk boards in the district had not then been reconstituted.	23rd May 1921.
Do. (2)..	March 1923..	The Government considered that the condition of the Board required that the President should be nominated by them.	11th May 1923.
Kistna ..	October 1921.	Do. do.	18th August 1922.
Vizagapatam (1)	July 1921 ..	The privilege was not allowed as the taluk boards in the district had not then been reconstituted.	20th August 1921
Do. (2)	August 1923.	The Board was asked to renew its request after the expiry of the term of its present President.	24th September 1923.
Tanjore ..	September 1923.	The privilege has been allowed with effect from 8th January 1924.	1st December 1923.

Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo :—" I should like to know whether the Government have received subsequent information about the feeling in the district on this matter ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" I do not quite understand what the hon. Member means by subsequent information. Up to the time of the preparation of the draft answer I do not think there has been any agitation. I must make enquiries whether subsequent to that there has been any."

Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo :—" Then, Sir, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state what the condition is to which he refers in his reply when he speaks of the Ganjām district ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" One of the conditions referred to is whether, if the privilege is given, there are qualified men to be elected as presidents."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Do I understand him to say that with regard to Bellary, Cuddapah and Gōdāvari, in his opinion, there are not competent men to be elected as presidents of district boards, because I find the hon. Member saying ' The Government considered that the condition of the board required that the president should be nominated by them ' ? I now ask him to just think a while with regard to all these three districts—Bellary, Cuddapah and

Gōdāvari—and say whether he, as the hon. the Chief Minister, takes the responsibility of saying that none of these large districts can find a single man to be elected president of the district board."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether the financial condition of each district has not also to be taken into consideration ? "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am much obliged to that answer ! " (Laughter from the opposition benches).

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The conditions are various. In some cases competent persons may not be available. In some cases the boards may be financially unsound and have deficit budgets and so forth. So if the conditions are satisfactory, Government will be prepared to grant the privilege."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Are we to understand that out of the 48 members of the Ganjām District Board no one is able to run on the district board ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It is a question which requires an expression of opinion and I am not prepared to answer it."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Is it the view of the Government that in case of a deficit budget the nominated president will discharge his duties more efficiently than an elected president responsible to the board and through the board to the electorate of the district ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" In that case the Government can expect a certain standard of ability."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Does the hon. the Chief Minister realize that those districts have returned hon. Members to this Council and if they can return Members to this Council to help the Government in the administration of the whole Presidency, does he seriously suggest that they cannot elect presidents of district boards ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not think it requires any answer."

Education.

The Board and Municipal Muhammadan elementary schools.

67 *Q.*—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government, the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of Board and Municipal Muhammadan Elementary schools for boys and girls opened during the past three years in the Ceded districts ?

A.—Information is not available. It will be called for.

Aid to Arabic schools.

68 *Q.*—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of schools opened by the Government and the amount spent during the last three years for the spread of Sanskrit Education in the Presidency ; and

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(b) whether the Government intend to extend the concession to Arabic by aiding purely Arabic schools and employing a Superintendent of Arabic schools on the analogy of the Superintendent of Sanskrit schools?

A.—(a) No Sanskrit schools have been opened by Government. The expenditure on grants-in-aid and on inspection of Sanskrit schools during the three years 1920–21, 1921–22 and 1922–23 is as follows :—

	1920–21.	1921–22.	1922–23.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Teaching grants	24,200	25,000	29,900
Furniture grants ...	1,453	186	...
Building grants	100	...	...
Superintendent of Sanskrit schools, establishment and contingencies	9,563	8,169	8,512
Total ...	35,316	33,355	38,412

(b) The Government do not propose to aid schools which do not provide secular instruction. Since there is only one recognized Arabic institution, the Government do not consider that there is need at present for the employment of a Superintendent of Arabic Schools.

Mr. K. Abdul Hye Sahib :—" Will the hon. the Minister kindly state whether there is any Sanskrit institution which was giving secular education and for which grant was given ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. Patro :—" Yes."

Muhammadan representation among Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

69 Q.—Mr. K. Abdul Hye Sahib: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of new appointments of Muhammadan Deputy Inspectors of Schools made during the past three years and the number of promotions made to that grade in the Ceded Districts and how many of them were given to natives of the Ceded Districts ?

A.—The following persons were newly appointed as Deputy Inspectors of Muhammadan Schools during the last three years in all districts including the Ceded Districts :—

1921—No new appointments.

1922—(1) Muhammad Usman Sahib, Tinnevelly Muhammadan range.

(2) Saiyid Durwish Muhi-ud-din, Vizagapatam Muhammadan range.

(3) S. A. Ibrahim Ali Sahib, Madura Muhammadan range.

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(4) Muhammad Muzaffar-ud-din Sahib, Bezwada Muhammadan range (resigned his post).
(Ceded Districts—Nil.)

1923—(1) A. Abdul Qadir Sahib, Bellary Muhammadan range. } Ceded Districts.
(2) Muhammad Mahbub Ali Sahib, Kurnool Muhammadan range. } Ceded Districts.
(3) U. S. Abdul Aziz, Ponnani Mappilla range.
(4) Ahmad Ali, Bezwada Muhammadan range.

The following persons were promoted to act in the Deputy Inspectors' cadre :—

1921 and 1922—Nil.

1923—(1) Saiyid Nizamat-ul-lah Sahib, Coimbatore Muhammadan range.
(2) P. Muhammad, Badagara Mappilla range.
(3) C. Ahmad Unni, Ottapalam Mappilla range.
(4) N. Kunhalan Kutti, Calicut Mappilla range.

(None in Ceded Districts.)

None of the above officers belongs to the Ceded Districts.

There was only one application from a graduate of the Ceded Districts (in 1922) for either a school assistant's or a Deputy Inspector's post. He was offered a school assistant's post which he refused to accept unless he was started on a salary of Rs. 100. As the minimum of the scale of pay of Deputy Inspectors and School Assistants is only Rs. 75 and as the applicant is moreover an untrained graduate, his application was not considered favourably.

Opening of a first-grade College at Palghat.

70 Q.—Mr. V. Madhava Raja: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(1) whether, with reference to the observations of His Excellency the President on Resolution No. 5 moved at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1920 regarding the raising of the Second Grade College at Palghat into first grade, inquiries were made as to the place where the First Grade College for Malabar should be located and whether the Government have come to a decision on the point;

(2) whether, with reference to any such decision, the Government asked the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals for starting the College;

(3) whether the Government will consider the claims of Palghat as being the place best suited for locating the College for the reasons urged by me in my speech on the above resolution; and

(4) whether provision will be made in the next year's budget for opening the College?

A.—(1) & (2) Some inquiries have been made and Government have decided to await a decision by the reorganized University authorities on the status of mufassal colleges and general University policy.

(3) Palghat will be considered.

(4) The answer is in the negative.

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Empire Exhibition.

Liabilities of the Madras Government on account of the British Empire Exhibition.

71 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what were the liabilities of this Government on account of the British Empire Exhibition on the 12th of December 1923 ;

(b) whether any subsequent liabilities have been incurred; and

(c) whether the Government have accepted the resolution of the Legislative Council on this matter ?

A.—(a) As stated in the answer to the question put by the hon. Member at the meeting of the Council on December 15th, 1923, the net liabilities on that date amounted to Rs. 2,53,038–8–6.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative. The Chairman of the Executive Committee has been informed accordingly.

Famine.

Mahazars to the Collector of Anantapur regarding remission of kists and starting of famine works.

72 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state if the Government are aware of the fact that mahazars have been sent recently to the Collector of Anantapur district praying for remission of kist and starting famine works ; and whether the Government intend to start relief works for giving facilities for drinking water in villages and in support of sanitation and irrigation ?

A.—(1) Yes.

(2) One test work was opened in the Gooty taluk on 15th January 1924, and more works will be opened if found necessary.

Floods.

Ganjām floods.

73 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that loss of life and property has occurred in Ganjām in consequence of the heavy rains in the Ganjām district ;

(b) whether they have received any official report on the subject ; and if so, to place the same on the table ; and

(c) the relief measures that they have already taken and also those that they propose to undertake ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The reports have already been published in the Madras dailies.

(c) Timber for repairing the houses damaged by the cyclone is being given to poorer ryots as far as possible. Advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act will be made where needed and remission of ryotwari assessmen ;will be granted where the circumstances require it.

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Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Are we to understand that the grant of one lakh of rupees for flood relief in the last session is to form no part of the relief ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—" I want notice."

Forests.

Forest panchayats in Cuddapah district.

74 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many forest panchayats are working in Cuddapah district ;

(b) whether any of them are working efficiently ; and

(c) how many reserved forests have been disafforested during the years 1922–23 and 1923–24 in the Cuddapah district ?

A.—(a) & (b) Forty-six forest panchayats were organized in the district till 30th September 1923 and of these 24 are reported to have been working well and three to be deserving of special mention.

(c) In 1922–23 one reserved forest measuring 3,390 acres and portions of three reserved forests measuring 232·95 acres and in 1923–24 portion of a reserved forest measuring 72·50 acres were disafforested in the district.

Government Press.

The staff of the Government Press.

75 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(1) whether the Government Press employees are overworked and whether the Surgeon of the First District has remarked that most of the employees are anæmic ;

(2) whether the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, is granting leave without pay to employees of long service when they are unable to attend the office in times of epidemic, such as influenza, when they are eligible for other kinds of leave ;

(3) whether the Superintendent, Government Press, is withholding increments and promotions from those who are obliged to take leave owing to illness ;

(4) whether the Government have received memorials to the effect that, in view of the fact that reorganization has not taken place for the last thirty years, the present revised scale is most unsatisfactory, and that the present revision makes no distinction between skilled and unskilled labour, etc. ;

(5) if so, how many such have been received and what are the orders passed in each case ;

(6) whether the present revised scale is far below that existing in other Government Presses, and if so, whether the Government would consider the advisability of introducing uniform scales ;

(7) whether the Government have sanctioned the scheme of amalgamation of stationery and printing offices in view of economy, and if so why it has not been given effect to ;

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(8) what is the pay of the present Lino-mechanic operator and what necessitated his appointment when retrenchment is going on in every department; how many lino-mechanics there are in the Government Press and what is the value of each machine and its outturn; and

(9) if the Government have no information on any of these points, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report and lay it on the table?

A.—(1) The Government have no reason to believe that the employees in the Government Press are generally overworked. There is, of course, considerable pressure of urgent work about the time of each Legislative Council meeting and a good deal of overtime was necessitated in connexion with the elections. The Surgeon, First District, did once remark to the Superintendent that a number of the men were anæmic, but he did not attribute this to overwork. A more probable cause lies in the surroundings in which they live. A further contributory factor is perhaps to be found in the state of the Mint Buildings for the reconstruction of which the Council refused a grant in the budget debate of 1921–22 on the motion of the hon. Member who has asked the question.

(2) The Superintendent reports that 97 per cent of the applications for leave with pay are granted. It is only in the case of men who are attempting to shirk work that leave is given on loss of pay.

(3) The answer is in the negative. The Superintendent withholds increments only from persons who have been warned at least four times for bad work.

(4) & (5) Some memorials were received in the years 1920, 1921 and 1922. A reorganization has since been made. No memorials of the kind indicated in the question have been received.

(6) The Government have no information as to the scale of pay given in places like Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi. It is not usual to level up the rates of wages in cities in which expenses of living differ. Nor, since the rates vary from place to place, would it be possible to make the Madras rates uniform with them all.

(7) The scheme referred to was not designed in the interests of economy. It has been deferred for a variety of reasons, among which were the appointment of the Stores Purchase Committee and the discussions regarding the abolition of the Madras Collectorate. It is probable that it would not be found suitable to present conditions.

(8) The appointment of a linotype operator was necessitated in order to bring the equipment and working of the Press more up to date than it is. There was no question of retrenchment or of additional expense since the officer appointed takes the place of a Deputy Superintendent in the Press. There are four linotype machines at present in the Press valued respectively at Rs. 11,000, Rs. 9,000, Rs. 7,000 and Rs. 7,000. There are no lino-mechanics employed and it was in order to train some that an operator was brought out from England in place of a Deputy Superintendent. The outturn of the machines was 1,141 pages

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in 1921–22 and 301 pages in 1922–23. It is hoped that, as soon as a sufficient number of operators have been trained, the output will be very greatly increased and there will be in consequence a large reduction in compositors' and supervision charges.

Employment of ex-war men in the Government Press.

76 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(1) what special concessions are given to passed candidates in the Government Press who have volunteered themselves for war service before the Armistice; and

(2) whether they are now being offered the minimum salary as if their sacrifice and war service count for nothing and whether they are treated as passed candidates fresh from school or college?

A.—Ex-service men in the Government Press have been given the same concessions as were given to similar men in other Government offices. The details of the concessions will be found in G.O. No. 74, Public, dated 5th February 1923, which has been laid upon the Editors' Table.

Harbour.

Disembarkation of deck passengers at the Madras Harbour.

77 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(1) whether deck passengers from the Straits Settlements are not allowed to get down from the steamers on any wharf in the Madras Harbour but taken on cargo-boats for about half a mile, to their great inconvenience and discomfort;

(2) whether deck passengers are not allowed the use of the doorways and the ladders in the steamers built for the use of passengers, but are loaded and unloaded through holes intended for the loading and unloading of sheep and coal, by lascars without any reference to the passengers' comfort or decency; and

(3) whether the Government propose to take any steps to alleviate the sufferings of these unfortunate passengers?

A.—(1) The answer is in the negative. Whenever a quay berth is available, the passengers embark or disembark direct by the quay. When the exigencies of traffic are such that no quay berth is available, the passengers are embarked or disembarked in boats. This occurred during 1923 in the case of about half the passengers.

(2) Deck passengers are embarked and disembarked through the entry ports, which are constructed for this among other purposes. It would not be safe to allow a large number of passengers hampered by quantities of luggage to utilize the gangways provided for first and second class passengers.

(3) The Government have already sanctioned the construction of three new deep water quays, and when these have been constructed, it is hoped that all vessels having passengers will be

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able to lie alongside. Meanwhile, the present arrangements are the outcome of many years' experience under local conditions and the Government have received no complaints that they have been the cause of suffering on the part of passengers.

Hindu Religious Endowments.

The Hindu Religious Endowments Bill.

78 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of, and the persons or institutions from whom, memorials or representations against the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill have been received, since the introduction of the Bill up to date?

A.—Since the introduction of the Bill up to the 22nd January 1923, the date fixed by the Select Committee for the receipt of representations about the Bill, 249 representations were received and considered by Government. The representations received after 22nd January 1923 and before the passing of the Bill were not considered by Government as they were received too late.

After the passing of the Bill, 185 representations have been received and considered by Government. It is not possible to classify these according as they are in favour of or against the Bill as in many cases the same representation is in favour of some provisions of the Bill and against others. It is not therefore possible to give the names of persons or institutions from whom representations *against the Bill* have been received.

The Hindu Religious Endowments Bill.

79 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill which was passed by the last Legislative Council is; and

(b) whether it has received the assent of His Excellency the Governor of Madras and His Excellency the Governor-General?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the message from His Excellency the Governor read by the President in the Council on 10th December 1923.

His Excellency the Viceroy's Visit.

Expenditure in connexion with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit.

80 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the amount of expenditure by the Madras Government and by the local bodies in the Presidency in connexion with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to this Presidency?

A.—The Government have not yet received a final account of the expenditure incurred in connexion with the visit, but they have sanctioned expenditure up to Rs. 85,839 and also the payment of batta to village servants who guarded the railway line.

The Corporation of Madras incurred an expenditure of Rs. 906. The Government have no information regarding other municipal bodies. The District Board, Madura, applied for sanction to incur an

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expenditure of Rs. 500, but the Government are not aware whether this amount was actually spent. No other board has applied for sanction.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table the final account in respect of the Viceroy's visit when they do receive that statement ? "

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp :—" Yes, Sir, the Government are prepared to place it on the table."

Arrangements at Madura in connexion with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit.

81 Q.—Mr. S. Satyamurti : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that—

(*a*) the owners of houses in the streets along which His Excellency the Viceroy passed in Madura were warned not to allow strangers into or in front of their houses ;

(*b*) such owners were prohibited from getting on to the terraces of their houses while His Excellency the Viceroy was passing ;

(*c*) patients going to the hospitals were turned back on the day previous to the visit as the roads were closed for hours for police rehearsals ;

(*d*) students could not go to their colleges for the same reason ;

(*e*) worshippers were not allowed inside the Sri Minakshi temple on the day previous to the visit and those who were inside for worship were turned out ; and

(*f*) one thousand five hundred reserve policemen of Ramnad and Madura districts, all the Deputy Superintendents of Police of the two districts and the District Superintendent of Police of Tinnevelly were brought to Madura and made to camp there for nearly a week before the visit ?

A.—(*a*) to (*e*) The Government have no information.

(*f*) Reserve policemen—The Ramnad Reserve was ordered to send only 108 men.

Deputy Superintendents of Police—One Deputy Superintendent was brought to Madura from Ramnad district.

Superintendents—The Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly, was brought in to Madura.

The officers and men camped in Madura for 4 days.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I ask the hon. Member to call for the information as he was good enough to say in the other case ? It was an important allegation made by a Vakil of the High Court who is practising there."

The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" Yes."

Imperial Bank.

Conduct of the Imperial Bank Fraud case by the Crown Prosecutor.

82 Q.—Mr. S. Satyamurti : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons why the Crown Prosecutor declined to appear and conduct the Imperial Bank Fraud case in the Presidency Magistrate's Court ; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to take any action thereon ?

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A.—(*a*) The reasons, as already stated in my answer to a supplemental question asked by the hon. Member, are more or less personal to the Crown Prosecutor.

(*b*) The Government accepted the reasons and therefore do not propose to take any action.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. Member to kindly state whether it is a fact that the Crown Prosecutor voluntarily declined to appear and conduct the Imperial Bank Fraud Case in the Presidency Magistrate's Court or whether negotiations went on between him and the Government either private or informal ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, in answer to a series of 19 questions on this subject put by the hon. Member for the University the Government has sent an answer that the Government do not propose to answer just now but propose to issue a communiqué after the proceedings are terminated."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I have not received it."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I take it that it will be laid on the table to-morrow or day after."

Irrigation.

Amount spent on new irrigation schemes in certain districts.

83 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the amount spent on new irrigation schemes during the last fifty years in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool and Cuddapah, respectively ?

A.—The amount spent up to March 1923 on schemes for which capital account is kept is over $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores. Figures of expenditure incurred on new schemes for which this account is not kept are not available.

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" May I know if the hon. Member could not give statistics for each district ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is quite easy and it will be done."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does it include the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes."

The irrigation sources of the Madura and Ramnad districts.

84 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have made any investigation to develop the irrigation resources of the Madura and Ramnad districts, and if so, to place on the table the report of such investigation ; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to undertake any irrigation project in the above two districts in the near future ?

A.—(*a*) The only important irrigation system in the tract is the Periyar system. Proposals for extension of irrigation under the system to the full irrigable area are under consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

A project known as the Purandalar project, Palni taluk, Madura district, for impounding the flood waters of the Purandalar and Palar was investigated some years back. As the financial prospects of the scheme were very unfavourable, it was decided in 1909 that it should be included in the famine relief programme of the district as an additional item.

An estimate for improving the Elandrakondam tank and supply channel, Srivilliputtur taluk, Ramnad district, is being prepared by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

There will be no advantage in placing the papers relating to these works at this stage on the Council table.

(*b*) There are no large irrigation projects in Madura and Ramnad districts likely to be undertaken in the course of the next few years; but the Chief Engineer will be prepared to discuss with hon. Members the prospects and feasibility of any schemes which may be suggested by them.

Capacity of the Periyar reservoir.

85 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the capacity of the Periyar reservoir and the area irrigated by the Periyar project;

(*b*) whether the capacity of the project could be increased and the project extended to the Thiruppur taluk of the Ramnad district; and

(*c*) if so, whether the Government propose to take up the project in the near future?

A.—(*a*) The capacity of the Periyar reservoir is 9,605 million cubic feet. The area irrigated in fasli 1332 is 130,799 acres against the irrigable area of about 143,000 acres under the system.

(*b*) & (*c*) The possibility of securing adequate supply for the full irrigable area under the system is under consideration and Government do not consider it possible to increase the capacity of the reservoir, and thereby to extend irrigation to Ramnad district.

The Cauvery reservoir project.

86 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to work out the Cauvery reservoir project in the immediate future, and if so, when; and

(*b*) whether the Government have examined the possibility of extending the project to the eastern portion of the Ramnad district?

A.—(*a*) Attention is invited to the answer to question No. 7 given at the meeting of the 10th December 1923 of the present session and it cannot be said when the project will be taken up for execution.

(b) Ramnad district is not within the scope of the project and the amount of water available would not admit of its extension to that district.

Water level in Dongal cheruvu tank in Cuddapah district.

87 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what orders have been passed on the proposal to breach or reduce the water level of the Dongal cheruvu tank in Cuddapah taluk;

(b) whether the ryots under the tank have submitted a protest against the proposal; and

(c) whether the Government cannot leave the tank as it is, in view of the hardship that would be caused to the ryots under the tank?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 268 at the meeting held on the 16th September 1922.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The alteration of the tank weir was designed to lower the maximum water level while retaining the full tank level as it was before. Thus the storage of the tank will not be reduced.

The Proddatur irrigation channel.

88 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any steps have been taken to restore the irrigation channel passing by Proddatur town; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there is not a drop of water in the said channel and that the lands irrigated by it are lying completely waste?

A.—(a) & (b) The channel referred to is a spring channel—a minor work. Owing to the total neglect of the ryots to do the annual silt clearance by kudimaramat labour, the channel is completely chocked up with silt and is not in working condition at present. A proposal to divert the channel was investigated in 1922 but was found to involve prohibitive expenditure.

Upper Pennar, Hindupur and Roddam projects.

89 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) whether the Upper Pennar project in Anantapur district has been abandoned on the ground that it was not found to be sufficiently remunerative and whether other irrigation projects have been kept in abeyance pending the investigation of the former;

(2) whether the Government propose to take up the Hindupur project for consideration now that the Upper Pennar project has been shelved; and

(3) whether Roddam project was considered fit to be taken up as a famine-relief work and whether the Government propose to take it up as the present seasonal conditions in the localities are very bad?

A.—(1) Yes. The project was unsuitable as a famine protective work.

(2) & (3) The scheme for a reservoir on the Kistna at Sangameswaram now under investigation aims at augmenting the supply in the Pennar by the Kistna water. The possibility of the Pennar scheme will be investigated after the results of the above investigation are known.

Jail.

Government communiqué on the Allipuram Jail, Bellary.

90 *Q.*—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB: With reference to the Government communiqué on the Allipuram Jail, Bellary, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to throw more light on the number of convicts afflicted and precautionary measures taken therefor?

A.—The number of cases was 167 of which seven cases ended fatally.

The following are the chief precautionary measures which were taken to arrest the spread of the epidemic:—

(1) Isolation of all cases and immediate contacts in the cholera enclosure and camp.
(2) Immediate segregation of all cases of diarrhœa.
(3) Stringent sanitary, food and water control such as the chlorination of the drinking water before use, protection of food and cooking and eating and drinking utensils from contamination, examination of all food-stuffs, cooked food, etc.
(4) Campaign against flies by the introduction of a large number of formaline sprays and
(5) Prophylactic issue of dilute sulphuric acid twice daily.

Number of political and other prisoners still undergoing imprisonment.

91 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of prisoners still in prison, convicted in connexion with the picketting of liquor shops in Madura early this year;

(*b*) the number of Mappilla prisoners convicted in connexion with the recent Mappilla rebellion who are still undergoing imprisonment; and

(*c*) the number of political prisoners, that is, those convicted of offences against the State, who are still undergoing imprisonment?

A.—(*a*) 92.

(*b*) 8,796 including 1,219 prisoners in the Andamans.

(*c*) The number of prisoners convicted of offences against the State and still undergoing imprisonment is 14.

Medical help to Pandit Vajpai.

92 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Pandit Vajpai, a political prisoner in the Central Jail, Trichinopoly, is in a critical condition; and

(*b*) whether proper and adequate medical help has been given to him?

A.—(*a*) Pandit Vajpai having been released on December 3rd the question does not now arise.

(*b*) Yes; whilst he was in jail.

Local Self-Government.

The Local and Municipal Group Conferences.

93 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased—

(*a*) to place on the table copies of all the resolutions of the various Local and Municipal group conferences held during 1922;

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(b) to state what action has been taken by the Government in regard to each of the resolutions passed at these conferences ; and

(c) to place on the table a statement of the expenditure incurred by the various local bodies for the attendance of the members of the said bodies at these conferences and also the expenditure incurred from Provincial funds for the travelling allowances of the officials who attended the above conferences ?

A.—(a) & (b) Copies of the resolutions passed at the Local and Municipal conferences held in 1922 with information as to the action taken thereon by Government are being printed and will shortly be placed on the table of the Legislative Council.

(c) Information as to the expenditure incurred on the 1922 conferences alone is not available. The expenditure incurred from Provincial, Local Board and Municipal funds in connexion with the travelling allowances of officers and members who attended the Local and Municipal conferences in 1921 and 1922 was approximately as follows :—

	RS.
Provincial funds	4,118
Local Board funds	24,252
Municipal funds	6,344
	34,714

The expenditure incurred on the conferences held in 1922 may roughly be taken at half the above sums.

Appointment of non-Indians in the Local Self-Government Department.

94 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of appointments held by non-Indians at the time he assumed office in the departments administered by him, and the salaries of these appointments, and

(b) the number and salaries of such appointments, if any, now held by Indians ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government presume that information is wanted only in regard to the gazetted appointments paid from provincial funds.

As regards the appointments in the Medical Department including those of the Director of Public Health and the Assistant Directors of Public Health, the hon. Member is referred to the Quarterly Civil Medical list issued in January 1921 and October 1923, copies of which are available to hon. Members.

In the other departments under the Minister, no non-Indians were employed at the time when he assumed office.

Mappilla Rebellion.

Number of Mappillas tried by the various courts in Malabar.

95 Q.—Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many Mappillas were tried up to date for offences connected with the rebellion—

(1) by the Military Court,
(2) by the Special Tribunal,

(3) by the Special Judges,
(4) by the Special Magistrates,
(5) by the Summary Courts, and
(6) by the Sessions Courts; and

(b) how many were discharged or acquitted and how many were convicted by each of the Courts mentioned in clause (a)?

A.—The Government regret that they are not in possession of the information asked for.

Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp:—"I don't think I will be justified in asking the local officers to spend a lot of time in collecting this information."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"The information may be useful in arriving at a decision regarding any grace that may be shown to the men still in jail."

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp:—"I do not quite see, Sir, what my hon. Friend is suggesting. Apparently his idea is that if we know the number of cases in which the men were discharged or acquitted, we will be in a position to arrive at some decision as to whether the remaining convictions also are proper."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"I am sorry I made a mistake; I thought that these referred to appeals."

Mr. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib:—"May I ask the Government to call for the information?"

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp:—"I have already said, Sir, that I don't think I will be justified in asking the officers to spend their time in collecting these statistics."

Mr. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib:—"Some of us want to table a Resolution on the subject and before doing so we want to have correct statistics. These statistics will help us in moving our Resolution."

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp:—"When the Resolution comes up I shall take care to give my hon. Friend the correct figures."

Number of Mappillas awaiting trial.

96 *Q.*—Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the number of Mappillas awaiting trial in cases connected with the rebellion pending before the Courts?

A.—On December 15th the number was nine.

Number of Mappillas yet to be arrested.

97 *Q.*—Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether there are Mappillas yet to be arrested for offences connected with the rebellion and, if so, how many?

A.—The number of Mappillas still to be arrested on December 21st was 219. Many of these have been absconding for long periods.

Conviction of one Ahamad Kutti of Ernad taluk.

98 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Kanadancherri Ahamad Kutti of Nannambra amsam, Cherumukku desam of Ernad taluk, Malabar district, was convicted in connexion with the recent Malabar occurrences and sentenced to twenty years' rigorous imprisonment, mainly on the evidence of his personal enemy, one Chattukutti Kurup, who has since been dismissed from his post under Government as Adhikari and has been bound over for good behaviour for three years ; and

(*b*) whether, under the above circumstance, the Government propose to release the said Ahamad Kutti ?

A.—The case is under the consideration of the Government.

Conviction of Moideen Kutty and Soopy of Ernad taluk.

99 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the circumstances under which Moideen Kutty and Soopy of Cherumukku desam of Ernad taluk, Malabar district, were convicted and sentenced to fourteen years' rigorous imprisonment and whether the Government propose to release them ?

A.—The Government have recently received a petition on the subject and have referred it to the District Magistrate for report.

Mappillas in prison who have not been brought to trial.

100 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether there are Mappillas arrested and imprisoned during and after the rebellion who have neither been charged nor brought to trial before any court of law and if so, how many and under what provision of law they are kept in prison and how many of them have been in prison for one year and more ?

A.—Two hundred and twenty-eight Mappillas have actually been arrested and dealt with under the Madras State Prisoners Regulation II of 1819 since the commencement of the rebellion. The orders relating to 111 of these are more than one year old.

Mappillas externed from Malabar.

101 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) (*a*) whether Mappillas have been externed from Malabar in connexion with the rebellion,

(*b*) and if so, how many males and how many females,

(*c*) under what provision of law they have been externed, and

(*d*) whether the Government have made any provision for their maintenance or the maintenance of their families ; and

(2) whether it is a fact that a Mappilla woman named Chettali Modayangatt Beeyumma of Tirurangadi amsam, Ernad taluk, South Malabar, aged 70 years, who has been prohibited from going to Malabar by the Government, had sent a memorial to the Government, praying to be allowed to go to Malabar or to have a provision made for her maintenance, and whether it is a fact that the Government declined to do either ?

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A.—(1) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 100 (72). No female has been dealt with under the Regulation. Only one man who has been removed from Malabar under the Regulations has not been detained in jail and he has been granted an allowance in conformity with the provisions of the Regulations.

The District Magistrate has in a few cases accepted voluntary undertakings from certain persons to leave the Malabar district. The woman referred to in clause (2) is one such case.

(2) The facts stated are correct except that the woman herself in the first instance agreed to leave Malabar and her undertaking was accepted by the Government. She was actively concerned in a particularly bad case of forcible conversion.

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—"Will the Government be pleased to make provision for her maintenance ?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"I am prepared to look into the matter."

Number of Mappilla children convicts.

102 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state (1) how many Mappilla women and (2) how many Mappilla children below 16 years of age have been convicted for offences connected with the rebellion and for what offences ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Number of Mappillas killed by the Military and Police in connexion with the rebellion.

103 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) how many Mappilla males above 16 years,
(2) how many Mappilla women above 16 years of age, and
(3) how many Mappilla children of 16 years and below

were killed by the Military and Police in connexion with the rebellion ?

A.—(1), (2) & (3) The number of Mappillas killed in the rebellion was between 1,200 and 1,500.

Government have no information of the age and sex of those who were killed.

Losses sustained by officials and non-officials during the Mappilla rebellion.

104 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether statements have been called for from the public by the Military or Civil authorities as to the losses sustained by officials or non-officials on account of the military operations or by the act of rebels or by both ;

(*b*) whether applications have been received from non-officials for compensation for such losses ;

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(*c*) what was the total amount of loss sustained by non-officials as shown by the statement or applications referred to in clauses (*a*) and (*b*) (i) by Hindus, (ii) by Mappillas and (iii) by Europeans, respectively; and

(*d*) what amount of compensation for such losses has been paid by the Government (i) to officials, (ii) to non-official Hindus, (iii) to non-official Mappillas and (iv) to non-official Europeans?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information regarding the action taken by the Military authorities. Statements of losses incurred by officials have been called for by the Civil authorities and have been disposed of.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) As regards officials, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to Question No. 362 given in November 1922. Since that date, the Government have sanctioned the payment of further sums amounting to Rs. 48,626 to village officers and other Government servants. No compensation has been paid to non-officials; but they have been granted relief in the shape of loans.

The number of Mappilla convicts that died in jail.

105 *Q.*—Mr. K. Uppi Sahib: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Mappillas imprisoned in connexion with the rebellion who died in jail (1) during the year 1921, (2) during the first half of the year 1922, (3) during the second half of the year 1922 and (4) during 1923;

(*b*) what were the diseases of which they died showing how many died of each of those diseases; and

(*c*) whether the corpses of the Mappillas who died in jail were given to the Muhammadans of the locality for burial according to the Muhammadan religion and, if so, how many corpses were so given to the Muhammadans and whether the rest were buried according to Muhammadan religion or not?

A.—(*a*) (1) 57; (2) 606; (3) 323; and (4) 184.

(*b*) Cholera 22; dysentery 293; pulmonary tuberculosis 48; other tubercular diseases 22; malarial fever 27; pneumonia 151; gastro entrites 25; entrites 194; cerebro spinal fever 29; influenza 111; smallpox 8; ankylo stomiasis 55; and other diseases 185.

(*c*) 325 corpses of Mappilla prisoners were given to the Muhammadans of the locality for burial and the rest were buried in jails according to Muhammadan religion.

Medical College.

Fees of students in the Medical College.

106 *Q.*—Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the fees of the students of the Medical College, Madras, are to be raised from July 1924, and, if so, by how much; and

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(b) whether the increased fees are to be paid also by students who, though they joined the College in 1923 or earlier, happen not to pass the yearly examinations?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 1014, P.H., dated 25th June 1923, which has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette.* A copy of the order is also now laid on the table.*

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"Does the Government Order apply to students who fail subsequent to July 1924 or also to those who have already failed?"

The hon. the Raja of Panagal:—"It applies only to those who fail subsequent to that year."

Medical Service.

Appointment of Assistant Surgeons to taluk headquarter stations.

107 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to appoint Assistant Surgeons to all taluk headquarter stations, ousting the present sub-assistant surgeons in charge, and what, if so, the additional cost is likely to be?

A.—No such proposal is under consideration.

Permission to local bodies to have their own medical men.

108 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have permitted or propose to permit local bodies to have, if they like, their own medical men in all medical institutions in their charge with the exception of those at the taluk headquarters?

A.—The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

The Lawley Hospital.

109 Q.—Mr. R. Veerian: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Resolution of the Coonoor Municipal Council, dated 5th December 1923, was submitted to Government for a substantial annual grant from the Government or to increase the grant to the District Board, Nilgiris, from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000 as before, in order to maintain the Lawley Hospital; and

(b) what order the Government passed on the Resolution of the Coonoor Municipal Council?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The Government have not yet passed orders on the Resolution.

* Printed as Appendix I on page 48 infra.

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Munsifs' Courts.

Pay of examiners of copies of District Munsifs' Courts.

110 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that, prior to the Great War, the examiners of copies of District Munsifs' Courts ranked equal in pay and status with the third clerks of the said courts ;

(ii) whether it is a fact that during the War Government granted the same scale of temporary increase of pay to the examiners of copies as was granted to the clerks in the regular line including the third clerks ;

(iii) whether it is also a fact that under the revisions of pay recently sanctioned Government have reduced the pay and prospects of the examiners of copies far below the scale granted to the clerks in the regular line ; and

(iv) if the answers to the above questions be in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to assign their reasons which induced them to degrade the examiners as indicated above ?

A.—(i) The pay in both cases was the same.

(ii) Government did not grant any temporary increase of pay during the war but merely granted war allowance. It was on the same scale for examiners and third clerks.

(iii) The scale sanctioned for clerks employed in District Munsifs' Courts is Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60 and that sanctioned for examiners is Rs. 35—1—40.

(iv) The Government do not consider the work of the examiner so onerous as that of clerks of the regular establishment. In their opinion, the duties of the examiner are more mechanical for the performance of which no long experience is required.

Panchayats.

Village panchayats.

111 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the working of the system of village panchayats has been successful, and if so, whether the Government propose to extend the system throughout the Presidency ; and

(*b*) whether any panchayat courts were introduced in the Ramnad district ; if so, the nature of their working, and if not, whether the Government have any proposals to introduce the system in the Ramnad district ?

A.—(*a*) If the hon. Member is referring to Panchayat courts, his attention is referred to G.O. No. 2410, Law (General), dated the 2nd October 1923, which has been placed on the Editors' Table. It is the policy of the Government to encourage the formation of Panchayat courts throughout the Presidency wherever local conditions permit.

(*b*) Sixty-seven courts were introduced in the Ramnad district by the end of the year 1922. The nature of the working of these courts shows that they are becoming popular.

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Railways.

Railway from Arantangi to Karaikudi.

112 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether there is any scheme under the consideration of the Government for the construction of a railway from Arantangi to Karaikudi, and if so, whether the scheme is likely to be taken up in the immediate future?

A.—Yes. The question is under the consideration of the Railway Board.

Aid to local bodies for railway construction.

113 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is the intention of the Government to aid local bodies by means of loans or otherwise in the work of railway construction?

A.—The Government have not yet come to any decision. They are awaiting a reply from the Government of India to a reference made to them on the subject.

Financial aid to district boards for expenditure on Railways.

114 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have addressed the Government of India to set apart a portion of the loan funds, or of the 150 crores set apart for Railways, to assist such district boards as have a substantial sum at their disposal for expenditure on Railways?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

The Tanjore district board railway.

115 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the percentage borne by working expenses to gross earnings on the several district board railway lines, and, if the percentage is high in the case of the Tanjore district board railway, the reasons for the marked increase?

A.—The information is not available.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I think it is a matter of some importance if the working expenses bear a high percentage to the gross earnings. Therefore, will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I have no objection to call for the information."

The Tanjore district board railway.

116 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tanjore district board has been asked by the Government of Madras to consider a proposal to sell its railway to the South Indian Railway Company; and

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(*b*) whether it is a fact that the time-table arranged by the South Indian Railway Company works to the detriment of the district board railway?

A.—(*a*) No, but a proposal to sell to the Government of India has been made.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know, Sir, whether the proposal to sell the district board railway to the Government of India has been sent to the district board and whether any reply has been received from them and, if so, what the nature of the reply is?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Their reply has not yet been received."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" There is a statement here, Sir, that the South Indian Railway Company has arranged its time-table to the detriment of the district board railway. Government say that they have no information. Will they be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" It is not a matter within the cognizance of this Government and on that ground possibly the question itself was not admissible; but we did not raise that point. The details of Railway management are a matter concerning the Railway Board and should be discussed in the Legislative Assembly and not in this House."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question of the admissibility or otherwise of the question is a matter entirely in your hands, Sir, and the question has been admitted and the Government have given an answer that they have no information. The time-table of the South Indian Railway Company and its working to the detriment of the district board railway are matters with which we are concerned, because after all district boards are administered by a Member of the Cabinet who is supposed to be responsible to this House, whatever the fact may be."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Gentleman is asking a supplementary question or raising a point of order, or making a speech at large, and if the latter, whether he is in order in making a speech?"

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am raising a point of order and putting a supplementary question. My point of order is this: that the question having once been admitted and answered by the Government in a particular manner, it is not open to any hon. Member of this House to raise a point of order on that matter at this stage."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" If the reference is to me, I did not raise any point of order."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No one disputed the admissibility of the question: so there is really no point of order here. The hon. Member may go on with the supplementary question, if he has any."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I will ask the hon. the Home Member to consider whether the fact that the time-table of the South Indian Railway Company works to the detriment of the Tanjore District Board Railway is not a matter"

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The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" My hon. Friend is asking me to consider something that is not exactly a supplementary question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I wish to be allowed to finish my sentence. The time-table of the South Indian Railway Company working to the detriment of the District Board Railway is within our cognizance. I may suggest that the profit or loss of the Tanjore District Board is a matter with which we are concerned ; the district board is administered by us. Therefore, I am asking whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information in view of this statement ? "

Railway line between Erode and Satyamangalam.

117 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the district board of Coimbatore has resolved to construct a railway line between Erode and Satyamangalam ; and whether an application has been made to the Government for financial aid ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have any intention of rendering any financial help of any shape whatever ; and if so, when, and to what extent ?

A.—(*a*) In October 1921 the Coimbatore district board proposed to take up the Erode-Satyamangalam line and applied to Government for a loan of Rs. 25 lakhs to construct it. In view of the Secretary of State's decision approving the reconversion of the Erode-Trichinopoly line to broad gauge the district board was informed that the Erode-Satyamangalam line would no longer form part of a through metre gauge route between Mysore and South India. The board was requested to re-examine the project on its own merits as an isolated district board line on a 2′ 6″ gauge or as a tram line. The district board has not reported its views.

(*b*) It is not possible to answer this question at the present stage.

Registration.

Departmental punishment of Sub-Registrars.

118 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state—

(1) the number of Brahman and non-Brahman Sub-Registrars who were awarded punishments of the following description since the assumption of charge by the present Inspector-General of Registration :—(*a*) Fine ; (*b*) stoppage of annual increment (i) for six months and (ii) for twelve months ; (*c*) (i) suspension for three months and less, (ii) suspension for more than three months but less than six months, (iii) suspension for more than six months but less than twelve months, (iv) suspension for more than twelve months ; and (*d*) dismissal ;

(2) in how many cases petitions for reconsideration of these punishments were received (*a*) from Brahman Sub-Registrars, (*b*) from non-Brahman Sub-Registrars ; and

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(3) in how many cases the above punishments were totally cancelled (*a*) in the case of Brahman officers and (*b*) in the case of non-Brahman officers?

	Brahman Sub-Registrars.	Non-Brahman Sub-Registrars.
A—(1) Total number in the department ...	353	290
(*a*) Fine	23	9
(*b*) Stoppage of annual increments—		
(i) for 6 months and less	17	17
(ii) for 12 months	30	14
(*c*) Suspension—		
(i) for 3 months and less	10	2
(ii) for more than 3 months but less than 6 months	8	4
(iii) for more than 6 months but less than 12 months	9	Nil
(iv) for more than 12 months ...	4	Nil
(*d*) Dismissals	6	3
Removals from service ...	2	5

(2) (*a*) 42, (*b*) 18.

(3) (*a*) 5, (*b*) 4.

Mr. JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB :—" May I know, Sir, whether Muhammadans are included in the term 'Non-Brahman'? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I shall supply the information to the hon. Member later on."

Filling up of clerical vacancies in the Registration department.

119 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state whether it is a fact that since the assumption of charge by the present Inspector-General of Registration, the majority of temporary vacancies in clerkships are not filled up with a view to show savings, in spite of the fact that such a procedure is causing a good deal of hardship to the other clerks on account of their having to work during non-office hours and on holidays?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Petty repairs in the Registration department.

120 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the present Inspector-General of Registration grudges the sanction of sufficient allotment for petty repairs to buildings and furniture and that in consequence the condition of the buildings and furniture in the case of a large number of offices is far from satisfactory?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Circuit of the Inspector-General of Registration.

121 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state the number of days spent in camp by the Inspector-General of Registration during the years 1920–21 and 1922–23 and the amount of travelling allowance drawn by him during the respective years ?

A.—

	Number of days.	Amount.	Number of offices inspected.
		RS.	
1920–21	198	2,749	13
1921–22	131	2,422	8
1922–23	256	6,433	58

The increase of expenditure in 1922–23 was due besides to increase in the rate of travelling and daily allowance, to the Inspector-General having had to do the inspections and enquiries conducted in 1920–21 by the Inspector of Registration Offices which post was recommended by the Legislative Council to be abolished and consequently is kept unfilled and also by the Assistant to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies. The total amount of travelling allowance drawn by the three officers was as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1920–21	6,283	4	0
1921–22	7,273	7	0

Travelling expenses in the Registration department.

122 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state the charges incurred by the Registration department under travelling expenses during the years 1920–21 and 1922–23 ?

A.—Rs. 67,995 during 1920–21.
Rs. 56,079 during 1922–23.

Roads.

Roads of the Central districts.

123 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) the total mileage of roads (apart from cart-tracks and bridle paths) in the districts of South Arcot, Chingleput, North Arcot, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur ;

(2) what is the proportion of road mileage in each of these districts to its area in square miles ;

(3) how many villages having a population of more than 500 are served by pukka roads and how many are not in each of these districts ; and

(4) how many railway stations in each of these districts are served by pukka roads ?

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A.—(1) & (2) The mileage of roads maintained by local boards in 1922–23 and its proportion to the area of the district are given below :—

District.	Mileage of roads maintained by local boards.	Number of miles of road per 100 square miles of area.
	MILES.	
South Arcot	1,195½	28·4
Chingleput	1,094¾	35·5
North Arcot	1,283	26
Cuddapah	942¾	16·01
Kurnool	825⅞	10·9
Bellary	930½	16·1
Anantapur	1,040	15·4

(3) & (4) The Government have no information.

Village roads in the delta area of Godavari and Kistna districts.

124 *Q.*—Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the deplorable condition of the village roads in the delta area of the Godavari and Kistna districts, which, in the rainy season, are in many cases impassable ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that it is impossible for the district boards concerned to construct these roads without substantial financial help from the Government ; and

(*c*) whether the Government have in hand any scheme for redressing this grievance, and, if so, whether the Government will place it on the table of this Council ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) & (*c*) On principle Government grants have been restricted to trunk roads and second-class roads. The cost of constructing and maintaining village roads should be met entirely by the local boards. With the relief afforded by the Government by the payment of grants for trunk roads and second-class roads it should be possible for the Gōdāvari and Kistna District Boards to make adequate provision for village roads. The Government have no scheme on hand for the improvement of village roads.

Separation of Executive and Judicial.

Report of Committee on separation of executive and judicial functions.

125 *Q.*—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have passed orders on the Report of the Committee appointed for the consideration of the question of separation of judicial and executive functions ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer of question 8 given on the 10th December 1923.

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Travelling allowance drawn by the hon. Ministers.

126 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the amount of travelling allowance drawn by the hon. the Ministers from January 1923 up to the end of October last?

A.—The following figures show the total amounts of railway charges made by book adjustment plus bills drawn for actual expenses on account of each of the three hon. Ministers for the period in question:—

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) The hon. the Raja of Panagal, Minister for Local Self-Government	9,307	7	0
(2) The hon. Sir K. V. Reddi, Minister for Development	3,022	11	6
(3) The hon. Mr. A. P. Patro, Minister for Education	4,623	4	0

Tree-tax.

Tree-tax in the Trichinopoly district.

11-30 a.m. 127 Q.—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(1) to state whether the Government would consider the desirability of reducing the tax on coconut and other trees in the Trichinopoly district as has been done in the neighbouring district of Tanjore as per G.O. No. 136, Revenue, dated 24th January 1923;

(2) to lay on the table papers showing the history of the tree-tax system in the Tanjore district;

(3) to furnish information as to the number of taxed trees in the Trichinopoly district and the annual revenue derived, or expected to be derived, therefrom, before and after the revision of tree-tax sanctioned in B.P. No. 47, dated 11th August 1921, in respect of the undermentioned trees:—

Coconut, Tamarind,	Mango, Jack,	Illuppai and Palmyra;

(4) if the information is not available with Government, to call for it; and

(5) to state the reasons which have led to the differentiation in rates between the districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly and also with reference to the ownership of fallen trees?

A.—(1) No.

(2) Copy of paragraph 29 of B.P. No. 305, dated 22nd January 1858, and of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Board's Resolution No. 9542, dated 17th December 1892, is laid* on the table.

* Printed as Appendix II on page 49 infra.

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(3) & (4) The Government have not the detailed information. The total tree-tax for faslis 1331 and 1332, i.e., for the years previous and subsequent to the revision was as follows :—

	RS.
Fasli 1331	31,254
Fasli 1332	74,325

(5) The differentiation in regard to ownership of fallen trees is due to the fact that in Tanjore there has survived an older system of taxation under which the trees planted on assessed land were taxed instead of the land on which they grow. This system has disappeared in all other districts. The same fact explains the reason why the Government lowered the rate for Tanjore.

Village Officers.

Village shanbhogues of South Kanara.

128 Q.—Mr. B. MAHABALA HEGDE: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the grievances of village shanbhogues of South Kanara (karnams) have come to the notice of Government?

A.—The Government are not aware of the grievances of the village shanbhogues of South Kanara nor have they received any representations from them.

Village officers whose services were dispensed with under the regrouping of villages.

129 Q.—Rao Bahadur O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of village officers whose services were dispensed with in consequence of the regrouping of villages effected by Government during the last two years;

(*b*) in how many cases appeals were preferred to the Collector;

(*c*) in how many of such cases the Collector has revised the orders of the Divisional officers;

(*d*) in how many cases appeals or revision petitions were preferred to the Board of Revenue against the orders of the Collector; and

(*e*) in how many of such cases the Board revised the orders of the Collector?

A.—Regrouping of villages is effected by the Board of Revenue with reference to the provisions of the Madras Act II of 1894 and Act III of 1895. The number of village officers and menials whose abolition the Board has sanctioned during the last two calendar years is given below, but the actual number dispensed with is not known as the process of carrying out the orders is still going on :—

—	Karnams.	Assistant Karnams.	Headmen.	Monigars.	Vettis.	Nirgantis.	Talayaris.
Ryotwari areas ..	1,138	608	2,356	885	5,751	1,035	4,979
Proprietary areas ..	511	12	494	51	24	1	266

Against this must be set off the increase of 472 in the number of triune officers in proprietary estates.

As regards the other clauses of the question, the collection of the statistics will involve an undue amount of work in the district offices. The Government do not therefore propose to ask the Board to undertake this.

Rao Bahadur O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—" However much it may be inconvenient to call upon the Collectors to furnish information as to the number of appeals received from the village officers in view of the labour involved, I don't think there will be any difficulty in getting the information from the Board of Revenue. I expect that in a place like the Board of Revenue, well conducted as it is, there is a register maintained containing the appeals that have been preferred and another column showing what was done with each appeal, whether it was allowed or rejected. So will the hon. Member be pleased to reconsider his decision and propose to ask the Board of Revenue to give information about a matter about which so much of hardship is felt and much feeling is entertained all over the Presidency ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—" I shall call for the information."

Water-supply.

Bellary water-supply scheme.

130 *Q.*—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are willing to take up the Bellary water scheme which has been kept in abeyance for want of funds ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there is a great scarcity of drinking water in Bellary town and that the two or three wells which are the main source of supply are getting dried up for want of rain ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Bellary has pressed the said point several times and, if it is so, what action has been taken on his representation ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the supply of water in the Fort ditch has been reserved solely for the Mappilla convicts ; and

(*e*) for how many months the supply of water in the Bellary town will last ?

A.—(*a*) The Government have already decided to take up the scheme at once for execution and have agreed as a very special case to bear 75 per cent of the initial cost of the scheme. The Bellary Municipal Council has been asked to report immediately whether it agrees to impose the taxation required to finance its share of the capital cost and to meet the maintenance charges.

(*b*) The Government understand that owing to the failure of the rains the water level in all the main sources of supply is very low for this time of the year. These sources are reported to be (1) the artesian well, (2) the Fort ditch, (3) the mainwaring and Nulla tanks and (4) some wells.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative. The Chief Engineer was specially sent to Bellary to report on the water-supply scheme. Work will be commenced very soon and it is expected that the scheme will be completed in less than a year.

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(d) From a report received from the Chairman, dated 1st December, it appears that the public of Cowl Bazaar have been prohibited by the District Magistrate from taking water from the Fort ditch. The Government are enquiring into the matter.

(e) The Government have no definite information; but the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, has reported that there may be great scarcity of water during the next six months.

Water-supply to Patha Cuddapah tank.

131 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the water-supply to Patha Cuddapah tank from the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal has considerably diminished owing to the Ukkayapalli project and that this decrease is causing great hardship to the ryots under the said tank;

(b) whether the Government intend to take early steps to ensure a sufficient supply to the tank by widening the water course in the canal or taking such other necessary steps as would give sufficient supply to the tank; and

(c) whether the Government will enquire into the matter?

A.—The answer is in the negative. During the execution of the Ukkayapalli project, the supply channel to the Patha Cuddapah tank was widened to suit the increased ayacut brought in by the project. It is understood that after the execution of the project the supply to the tank has improved and the area irrigated under it has increased appreciably.

Water convenience in Mulluvadi, Salem district.

132 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the members of the depressed classes suffer very much for want of a water tap in their locality alongside the public road in Mulluvadi, Salem, and

(b) why no steps have been taken by the Salem Municipal Council to provide a water tap for the depressed classes in a suitable place in Mulluvadi, Salem?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes."

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures in Coimbatore municipality.

133 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that defective measures, scales and weights are being allowed in the markets, bazaars and shops in the Coimbatore municipality; and

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(*b*) whether it is a fact that the by-laws framed by the sub-committee for prescribing and providing standard weights, scales and measures and preventing the use of any others, and recommending at the same time the appointment of a special officer to look after the work are still kept in abeyance for a very long time by the Chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality instead of placing the same before the full council for approval though the members of the sub-committee requested him to place the matter before the full council?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"In this case also, will the Government be pleased to call for the information."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"They have no objection to do so."

Local Self-Government.

133-A *Q.*—Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether he has since verified the statement made by him on the 28th November during the debate on the "No Confidence" motion that the hon. Member for Chittoor, Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddy, did apply to him for a nomination to a membership of the District Board of Chittoor;

(2) in view of the emphatic repudiation of the hon. Member that he did not seek the intercession of the hon. the Chief Minister to get any appointment of any kind, whether the hon. Member desired his help to get any particular appointments, and, if so, which; and

(3) if the answer to the above two clauses be in the affirmative, whether he will lay on the table of the House any records in his possession substantiating his statements?

A.—(1) The answer is in the affirmative.

(2) The hon. Member has written to me asking me to appoint him as a member of the Chittoor District Board. He has also written to me in connexion with two other appointments, namely, the Presidentship of the Legislative Council and the Vice-Chancellorship of the Madras University.

(3) I am averse to laying private letters on the table of the House, but I shall be compelled to do so in this case if the hon. Member does not admit that the statement made by him on the occasion referred to in the question was contrary to the fact.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I rise to a point of order, Sir? If you will kindly turn to Standing Order No. 28, you will find that it runs thus:

'A question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public concern within the special cognizance of the Member to whom it is addressed.'

"On the same matter there is another Standing Order which runs thus:

'30 (1). A question addressed to a member of the Government must relate to the public affairs with which he is officially connected or to a matter of administration for which he is responsible.'

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(3) in how many cases the above punishments were totally cancelled (*a*) in the case of Brahman officers and (*b*) in the case of non-Brahman officers ?

	Brahman Sub-Registrars.	Non-Brahman Sub-Registrars.
A.—(1) Total number in the department ...	353	290
(*a*) Fine	23	9
(*b*) Stoppage of annual increments—		
(i) for 6 months and less	17	17
(ii) for 12 months	30	14
(*c*) Suspension—		
(i) for 3 months and less	10	2
(ii) for more than 3 months but less than 6 months	8	4
(iii) for more than 6 months but less than 12 months	9	Nil
(iv) for more than 12 months ...	4	Nil
(*d*) Dismissals	6	3
Removals from service	2	5

(2) (*a*) 42, (*b*) 18.

(3) (*a*) 5, (*b*) 4.

Mr. JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB :—" May I know, Sir, whether Muhammadans are included in the term 'Non-Brahman' ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I shall supply the information to the hon. Member later on."

Filling up of clerical vacancies in the Registration department.

119 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state whether it is a fact that since the assumption of charge by the present Inspector-General of Registration, the majority of temporary vacancies in clerkships are not filled up with a view to show savings, in spite of the fact that such a procedure is causing a good deal of hardship to the other clerks on account of their having to work during non-office hours and on holidays ?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Petty repairs in the Registration department.

120 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the present Inspector-General of Registration grudges the sanction of sufficient allotment for petty repairs to buildings and furniture and that in consequence the condition of the buildings and furniture in the case of a large number of offices is far from satisfactory ?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 106 asked by Mr. S. Satyamurti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1924, page 34 supra.]

G.O. No. 1014, P.H., dated 25th June 1923.

In G.O. No. 889, Public, dated 29th July 1914, the Government fixed the rate of fees to be levied for the L.M.S. and the M.B., B.S. courses in the Madras Medical College at Rs. 120 a year, or Rs. 600 for the whole course of five years. This amount represented a small fraction of the actual cost incurred by the Government in educating a student, but it was fixed so low in order to popularize the medical profession. The cost of medical education has risen enormously since 1914, so much so that in 1921–22 the Government had to spend from general revenues about Rs. 921 on the average per student educated in the College in that year. The number of students seeking admission into the College has also been steadily on the increase. In 1922, out of 251 candidates qualified for admission, only 91 could be admitted into the College. The Government therefore consider that the time has now come when an enhanced rate of fees may reasonably be demanded from students in the College. They accordingly direct that the following revised rates be adopted with effect from the 1st July 1924 :—

	Existing rate.	Revised rate.
	RS.	RS.
(i) Annual fee	120	200
(ii) Fee for the whole course if paid in one sum on joining the College ...	540	900
(iii) Fee for the 1st year in the case of Physical Science graduates ...	65	110
(iv) Fee for a supplementary course for students who fail in the final L.M.S. or M.B., B.S. examination.	60	100

No change will be made in the annual registration fee of Rs. 5.

2. The revised rates fixed above will be applicable to candidates joining the College in July 1924 and subsequent years. In the case of those who joined the College in previous years, the existing rates will be continued provided they complete the course regularly ; if, however, a student fails in any examination and has to study in the same class another year, he will be required to pay fees at the revised rates for the whole of his subsequent course.

3. The Surgeon-General is requested to give wide publicity to these orders when inviting applications for admission into the College next year.

4. Separate orders will issue in regard to the question of instituting a suitable number of scholarships to be awarded to students in the College.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

P. L. Moore,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.
,, Accountant-General.
,, Finance Department.
,, Retrenchment Secretary.

Gazette.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 127 asked by Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1924, page 42 supra.]

Extract of paragraph 29 *of B.P. No.* 305, *dated* 22*nd January* 1858.

29. In Tanjore when assessed lands were planted with topes, the practice is to suspend the assessment and substitute a tree tax which is collected on all fruit bearing at fixed rates for each kind. In reply to the Board's enquiry whether it would not be advisable to abolish the system and levy the land tax always, the Collector replies that the change would be disadvantageous to the Government and the people. To the former it would cause an immediate loss of revenue to the amount of Rs. 14,478-4-1, while as regards the latter it would remove the encouragement which is now given to keep up and extend valuable plantations by no charge being made for the land while the trees are young and fruitless. Although therefore the toll system is cumbrous and has some disadvantages as remarked by Government, it has procured for this Province the great desideratum of a plentiful supply of valuable fruit trees and has increased the revenue and the prosperity of the landholders.

Extract of paragraphs 2 *and* 3 *of Board's Resolution No.* 9542, *dated* 17*th December* 1892.

2. The tree-tax system of Tanjore is peculiar to the district. The question whether it should be abolished and a land tax substituted for it was considered in 1855-58, but it was decided that it should be maintained as it gave very satisfactory results in the encouragement of tree-planting. So recently as in 1885 also Government held the opinion that no change should be made in the existing practice of the district.

E.M.C. No. 298, dated 6th March 1858.
G.O. No. 448, dated 20th April 1885.
G.O. No. 42, dated 20th January 1886.
G.O. No. 117, dated 13th February 1886.

3. Under this system which applies only to fruit trees, there are different rates for the different kinds of fruit trees. Trees on inam and patta lands and on private porambokes, such as Asamikarai (margins of fields) and backyards attached to house-sites, were exempted from tax in E.M.C. No. 655, dated 31st May 1855, paragraph 7, and E.M.C. No. 298, dated 6th March 1858, paragraph 10, but it is not clear whether full effect has been given to the exemption as regards trees situated on field banks. Generally, however, the tax is now confined to topes other than those planted under the tope rules and to trees on waste land, assessed or unassessed, or poramboke. The tax is levied when the trees begin to bear and private individuals are allowed to plant them on waste and poramboke lands. The trees thus taxed are treated as the property of the mirasidar or ryot who pays the tax, and he is at liberty to fell or otherwise dispose of them at his pleasure.

VI

PRESENTATION OF PETITION TO THE COUNCIL.

Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Under Standing Order No. 71, I beg to present
11-45 a.m. a petition to the Council on behalf of the Madras Landholders' Association regarding the Irrigation Bill."

The Secretary then read the abstract of the petition.

VII

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" I beg to move the adjournment of the House to consider an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the issue of the whip by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in connexion with the 'No-Confidence' Motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi."

Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Before you give your ruling on the matter, I should like to state that it is necessary for the hon. the Mover of the Adjournment Motion to secure the support of twenty hon. Members. I may also state, Sir, that the matter has sufficiently been discussed already and that it is not a matter of urgent public importance."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" On a point of order, under the Standing Orders, it is for you to say whether you approve of it or not. I do not think any speech is in order."

Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" For your consideration I am submitting it, Sir."

(Voices of 'no', 'no'.)

The hon. the President :—" The Motion for adjournment is subject to the following restrictions :

'If the President is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the Council and ask whether the Member has the leave of the Council. If objection is taken, the President shall request those Members who support the Motion to rise in their places, and if twenty or more Members rise accordingly, the President shall intimate that the Motion will be taken at 4 o'clock.'

"I now ask whether the hon. Member, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar, has the leave of the House and request those Members who support the Motion to rise in their places."

Objection having been taken but more than twenty Members having risen in their places,

The hon. the President said :—" I think there are more than twenty Members in support of the Motion. The Motion will be taken up at 4 o'clock subject to the regulations and restrictions in the Standing Orders relating to Motions for Adjournment."

VIII

DISCUSSION ON THE ARTICLE IN THE "SWARAJYA" OF 20TH JANUARY 1924 REGARDING THE HON. THE PRESIDENT.

Rao Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu :—" Sir, before you proceed with the business of the day, I wish to bring to your notice the wording of the article in the *Swarajya* dated the 20th January . . . "

The hon. the President :—" Does the hon. Member wish to raise a point of order ? "

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Rao Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"It is not a point of order, Sir. The dignity and the privilege of the House have been attacked in that article."

Rao Bahadur O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—"I rise to support my hon. Friend, Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu. Sir, the practice and procedure of the House of Commons, in cases where the privileges of the Houses are attacked or where the impartiality of the Chair is questioned, is to take action against the offending person. So, I beg to support his application for action being taken against the *Swarajya.*"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is undoubtedly true that under the procedure of the House of Commons, if the privileges of the House are attacked, or the impartiality of the Chair is questioned, the procedure obtaining is the summoning of the offending person before the House by the Sergeant-at-Arms who is specially appointed for such purposes. But quite apart from the circumstance that there is no such functionary like the Sergeant-at-Arms here, it appears to me that it is the inherent jurisdiction of this House that it should take notice—and severe notice—of any comments in the public press reflecting on the impartiality of one who stands and ought to stand above parties and commands the confidence of every section of the House and who is entitled to demand and receive the respect of the public. There is nothing more mischievous than an attack upon the President. This is again in the nature of an attack upon the impartiality of a Judge as to which a similar procedure obtains. Even if the Standing Orders do not allow it, I think this is an exceptional circumstance in which a convention should be established and it would be a wholesome thing if a convention was established of expressing our disapproval."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Quite apart from other considerations, I would suggest to the hon. Member from Guntur to write to the Secretary and the matter will then be dealt with as upon an ordinary notice."

III.—ALLOTMENT OF DAYS FOR NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS—*cont.*

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The point that I wish to raise is this: it is stated that six days which were allotted by His Excellency the Governor for the transaction of non-official business have already been exhausted. It appears to me that it is not so. His Excellency at the commencement of the session allotted six days for non-official business. It will be remembered that no particular day was earmarked for the transaction of non-official business, as is the practice in other Provincial Legislative Councils and the Delhi Legislative Assembly. In other Councils certain days are earmarked for Government business and certain others for non-official business. On days on which Government business is to take place, Government business of course has priority, and when that is transacted, and if there is time left, non-official business can be proceeded with. So also, on days which are earmarked for non-official business, if there is any time left, Government business also can be transacted. It will be remembered by you, Sir, that no particular day was earmarked for the transaction of non-official business in this session. Because at the commencement of the session no Government business was ready, non-official business was proceeded with,

12 noon.

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [5th February 1924

"Also, I refer to section 6 of the Legislative Council Rules on page 161 of the first volume of the Legislative Council Manual which says:

'The Governor, after considering the state of business of the Council, shall, at the commencement of each session, allot as many days as are in his opinion compatible with the public interests for the business of non-official Members in the Council, and may from time to time during the session alter such allotment, and *on these days* such business shall have precedence. At all other times Government business shall have precedence.'

"The use of the words '*these days*' shows, I submit, that certain specific days should be allotted for the transaction of non-official business. Otherwise '*these days*' have no meaning.

"Important non-official bills and resolutions have been pending for a considerable time. So far as I am concerned, there is the Malabar Tenancy Bill, which has been hanging fire for the past one and a half years. If no more day for the transaction of non-official business is allotted, it is not likely that my Bill and many important resolutions will be reached till August, nearly six months from now. This point, Sir, is of considerable importance. I am not particular that you should give an immediate,ruling on the matter. I will be content if you can give it at any time convenient to you. I am only submitting that this is an important matter and we want more time for non-official business, as in the month of March we shall be engaged with the budget and non-official business cannot be transacted then."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member wishes in the first place to ask for more days for the transaction of non-official business than have already been allotted by His Excellency the Governor. Secondly, he also wishes that the days should be fixed not merely as so many for the whole session, which has already been done, but that such and such days should be appointed for the transaction of non-official business. I may tell hon. Members of this House that, during the time of my predecessor, it was arranged that six days should be allotted for non-official business, and that circumstances rendered it advisable that the sittings in November and December should most of them be devoted to non-official business. Now those six days are exhausted. I shall however bring to the notice of His Excellency the Governor at an early date the desire of hon. Members that more days should be allotted and that the days so allotted should be specified."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have a request to make. As matters stand at present, important non-official Bills such as the Tenancy Bill and the Mappilla Prisoners' Clemency Bill in which a large number of Members are interested have no chance of being taken up at all till August. One of the committees appointed by your distinguished predecessor made a recommendation to the effect that if we could not get through enough business during the five days that we normally sat, the sitting might be extended by a couple of days and time thus found for the transaction of more business. We are now asked to meet for three days or according to the convenience of Government for four days. It seems to me that we are here to transact non-official business as well as Government business. I wish to move the authorities to extend the present sitting, so that some urgent and important resolutions in which a large number of non-official Members are interested might be taken up for discussion."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will also bear in mind the request of the hon. Member to extend the present meeting so as to allow of non-official

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business being transacted. As many days of this meeting as are necessary will be reserved for the official business of which notice has been given. As regards more days, I shall consider the matter very carefully in consultation with the hon. the Leader of the House."

IX

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The hon. the PRESIDENT then conveyed to the Council the following Message from His Excellency the Governor regarding the manner in which certain communications are made by him to the Council :—

Message.

'With reference to Standing Order 69 of the Standing Orders of the Madras Legislative Council which recites two ways in which communications are made by the Governor to the Council, I desire it to be understood that the two ways mentioned in the rule are not exhaustive, and that I propose to continue the practice followed during the past three years in this Council, and which is common to similar Assemblies in other parts of the Empire, under which a less formal means of communication is adopted when the occasion is suitable. In particular, I propose to pursue the practice hitherto adopted under which my recommendation in relation to a proposal for the appropriation of provincial revenues is communicated through a Member of my Government.

28th January 1924. WILLINGDON.'

X

ELECTION OF TWELVE MEMBERS TO THE SENATE.

The hon. the PRESIDENT then announced the names of the twelve Members elected as Members of the Senate from the non-official Members of the Council :—

1. Rao Bahadur O. Tanikachala Chettiyar.
2. Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.
3. ,, A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
4. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
5. Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao.
6. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
7. Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
10. ,, P. T. Rajan.
11. ,, C. Gopala Menon.
12. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur.

XI

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(1)

The SECRETARY laid on the table * copies of—

(i) the order of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as notification No. 108, dated 18th December 1923, appointing M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur Lewis Dominic Swamikannu Pillai Avargal, C.I.E., I.S.O., as President of the Legislative Council;

(ii) the order of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as notification No. 109, dated 18th December 1923, appointing M.R.Ry. Rasipur Varatha Krishna Ayyar Avargal, B.A., M.L., as Secretary to the Legislative Council;

(iii) the order of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as notification No. 4, dated 17th January 1924, appointing M.R.Ry. Colattur Satagopa Achariyar Avargal, B.A., as Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Council.

* Printed as Appendix III on pages 119-120 infra.

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(*d*) From a report received from the Chairman, dated 1st December, it appears that the public of Cowl Bazaar have been prohibited by the District Magistrate from taking water from the Fort ditch. The Government are enquiring into the matter.

(*e*) The Government have no definite information; but the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, has reported that there may be great scarcity of water during the next six months.

Water-supply to Patha Cuddapah tank.

131 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the water-supply to Patha Cuddapah tank from the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal has considerably diminished owing to the Ukkayapalli project and that this decrease is causing great hardship to the ryots under the said tank;

(*b*) whether the Government intend to take early steps to ensure a sufficient supply to the tank by widening the water course in the canal or taking such other necessary steps as would give sufficient supply to the tank; and

(*c*) whether the Government will enquire into the matter?

A.—The answer is in the negative. During the execution of the Ukkayapalli project, the supply channel to the Patha Cuddapah tank was widened to suit the increased ayacut brought in by the project. It is understood that after the execution of the project the supply to the tank has improved and the area irrigated under it has increased appreciably.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Water convenience in Mulluvadi, Salem district.

132 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the members of the depressed classes suffer very much for want of a water tap in their locality alongside the public road in Mulluvadi, Salem, and

(*b*) why no steps have been taken by the Salem Municipal Council to provide a water tap for the depressed classes in a suitable place in Mulluvadi, Salem?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes."

Weights and Measures.

Weights and measures in Coimbatore municipality.

133 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that defective measures, scales and weights are being allowed in the markets, bazaars and shops in the Coimbatore municipality; and

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irrigation works were damaged by the floods in December 1923 in that district and the damage caused was estimated to Rs. 56,173 towards which Rs. 12,000 is expected to be spent before the close of this financial year. Expenditure on these three items together come to Rs. 31,000 and I move for sanction of this Council for the Grant which has been made anticipating the sanction. A similar sum will be relinquished from Grant VIII. In effect the Grant will merely amount to a transfer of expenditure from one head to another."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I beg to move for the reduction of a sum of Rs. 100 from this Grant. It is a matter to be regretted that, when making this Demand for Supplementary Grant, the Government have not thought it fit, as they did on a former occasion, to furnish an explanatory memorandum pointing out the necessity for this Supplementary Grant. On the last occasion, the House will remember, the Government gave as complete information as possible or desirable to Members, pointing out the various steps taken by them, before asking for that Demand. Now, in making this motion I do not wish to suggest that this expenditure is unnecessary or that the House should reject this Grant. I wish only to ask that when the question of damage caused by cyclone in Ganjām and Vizagapatam and the floods in Tinnevelly have been before the public for a pretty long time, is it not possible for the Government to give us a comprehensive idea of the damage caused to irrigation works in these districts? It is true that the Collectors have asked for a certain amount before the close of the year and that for that amount, this Supplementary Demand is made. But it is necessary for us to know the total extent of damage caused to irrigation works, the amount proposed to be spent this year and the amount proposed to be spent hereafter. We should have been furnished all this information before we are called upon to vote for this small sum of money this year. We are now in February; what is now asked for is for expenditure before the end of this month. As every one knows that bills for works done in March would be paid in April, I believe this sum of Rs. 31,000 probably represents only a portion of the money required for putting those irrigation works in order. Therefore, without information as to the total extent of the damage caused to these works and the probable amount of expenditure to be incurred for repairing these irrigation works, it is not reasonable that we should, just on the eve of the presentation of the Budget early next month, be called upon to vote for this Grant. It is for the purpose of intimating to the Government the desirability of placing before us full and complete information about the damage caused to the various irrigation works, that I have thought it fit to make this motion."

12-15 p.m.

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—" Mr. President, Sir, what information was available from the reports of the Collectors concerned have already been published in the newspapers. Further reports are being prepared by the Collectors and, when they are submitted to the Government, they will be made available to the Members of this House. It is impossible just now to say the extent of damage in all these different districts, but very careful inquiries are being made and estimates are being prepared; and when they are available they will be furnished to the Members. At present, the amount asked for is for very urgent works and, if those works are not

attended to immediately, it will lead to further damages and more expenses. In view of this fact His Excellency has thought it fit to sanction the moving of this Grant which I hope the House will sanction."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I would have expected the hon. the Revenue Member to ask the Collectors of the districts to furnish this information at once. There is no meaning in the Collectors' simply saying that this amount is required, without placing the necessary information before the hon. the Revenue Member. I would suggest to him that he would lose no time in getting that information. I do not suggest for a moment that this Grant is not required and that the House should not vote for it; but what I say is that the House should have a full idea about the extent of the damages before it is called upon to vote for a Grant of this kind."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XI.

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move :

That the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 1,260 *under Civil Justice for the Additional Sessions Court, Coimbatore.*

" Mr. President, Sir, when I am making this motion I do not think I shall be laying myself open to the criticism levelled at my hon. Colleague the Revenue Member, by the hon. Member from Nellore. Because, I am asking practically only for the salary of the functionaries concerned. I am in a position to tell the House that the original estimate was for a month and a half and that the present motion is only for three weeks' pay in February which will be met out of the current year's Budget. We require only Rs. 1,260 and I propose to alter my Demand, with the leave of the House to a sum of Rs. 1,260. However small the sum may appear to be, it is my duty to justify that to this hon. House, especially as on a previous occasion when this matter was debated on, the hon. Member for Coimbatore expressed fairly unequivocal ideas on the subject. Those who are conversant with the proceedings of this House would remember that on the last occasion when a proposition was made for the appointment of an additional Sessions Judge in Coimbatore, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, said that the state of business was such that it would not be necessary to enlist the services of any such officer. And though at that time I felt fairly convinced that his prognostications or rather his prophecies erred on the side of optimism, still I contented myself with warning my hon. Friend that I might have to come again before this House to ask for a Grant and withdrew my motion. Now what are the facts? The facts are these: The pending civil work on the file is 195 civil appeals—of which 14 are appeals against the decrees of sub-courts, 38 would be over six months at the end of this month, 54 general petitions, 73 original petitions and 47 civil miscellaneous petitions. Again, the pending criminal work—I hope my hon. Friend will forgive me if I say that his district or rather some inhabitants of his district indulge in criminal propensities to an inordinate extent swelling the criminal work in courts—stands thus: 11 sessions cases and 6 criminal appeals, and the Sessions Judge has reported to us that, on an average, 80 per cent of the cases committed to sessions in a

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month, consist of murderous offences triable only by a Sessions or an Additional Sessions Judge. The result is that much of the civil work which could not be transferred to subordinate judges on account of the nature of the work is in arrears and criminal work is accumulating. Now, I think my hon. Friend from Coimbatore will support me when I say that we must give relief to the District Judge. Under these circumstances, I confidently expect every support from a quarter from which I did not get support on the last occasion."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Now that the hon. the Law Member has made a much greater reduction than that given notice of by the hon. Member, Mr. Krishna Rao, does he still wish to make his motion for reduction ? "

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I am not particular about the grant being reduced by Rs. 1,250 at all. I, however, beg to move :

' To reduce the demand under Grant XI by Rs. 100.'

" The hon. the Law Member has pointed out the circumstances which go to justify the bringing in of the additional sessions court at Coimbatore and he expected support from an unexpected quarter. I take it from the silence of the Members from Coimbatore that they accept the position and feel it necessary that the Additional Sessions Judge ought to continue. But what I like to point out on this motion is this: whether, just on the eve of the presentation of the budget early next month, it is necessary to make a supplementary demand for this small sum of Rs. 1,260 and whether it would not be possible to find money from savings from some other head ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The only reason why I moved for this grant was that I should have been wanting in my respect to this House to go against its deliberate decision on the last occasion. In other cases I have reappropriated. But on a matter of this kind where the House has given its decision, I thought it was my duty to come before it for the purpose."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Then, I take it, Sir, that so far as the question of funds is concerned, it is possible to find this small sum by reappropriation. I hope he will find savings enough to meet this demand. I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The demand for Rs. 1,260 was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XXVI.

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I beg to move :

That the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 72,000 under 41-A. Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Grants to local bodies for the maintenance of trunk roads.

" Sir, the Government have assumed the financial responsibility for the maintenance of the trunk roads and they have hitherto paid the actual expenditure incurred by the district boards and municipalities subject to the condition that the rate does not exceed Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 in the case of the district boards and municipalities, respectively. In the current year, provision

was made to the extent of Rs. 1,54,100, but this has been found to be insufficient to meet all the demands. We have already demands to the extent of Rs. 72,000, and it is to meet these demands that I move for this grant."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I beg to move :

that a sum of Rs. 100 *be omitted from this grant.*

" The hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has informed this House that the Government have undertaken responsibility for the maintenance of trunk roads and that, in giving effect to that undertaking, it has been found necessary to ask for this supplementary grant. I realize the necessity for this grant and, if I have found it necessary to make this motion for reduction, it is only to point out to the hon. the Minister and to this House that the way in which the Government have been discharging this responsibility is not quite satisfactory. In the first place, shortly after the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee were before the Government, it was pointed out that to make a hard and fast rule of Rs. 500 in the case of district boards and Rs. 1,000 in the case of municipalities, would work serious hardship and that there must be facility for reasonable increase of it wherever it is found absolutely necessary. Again, Sir, in defining trunk roads—the nomenclature adopted by the Financial Relations Committee being first-class roads—it is pointed out that all roads connecting one district with another are roads of provincial importance and should be classed as trunk roads. Road committees were appointed in various districts consisting not only of representatives of local bodies, but also the Collector of the district and the Executive Engineer. These committees made proposals consistently with the recommendations of, or the principles enunciated by, the Financial Relations Committee, for the addition of certain other roads as first-class roads. But nothing tangible or substantial has so far been done for increasing the number of trunk roads to be maintained by the Government. When once the principle has been conceded that first-class roads or trunk roads are roads which connect one district with another, whether they cost Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 20,000, the Government should make itself entirely responsible for the maintenance of those roads.

" My chief complaint is that the Government have not realized their responsibility by including within the category of trunk roads those which really deserve to be treated as such. Secondly, my complaint is that they have not given the allotment which the local bodies require even in excess of the limits of Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 as the case may be.

12-30 p.m.

" Another point which I must raise in regard to this motion is that the Government have latterly embarked on a policy of creating restrictions and limitations on the powers of the local bodies whenever they choose to make a grant. I may remind the House that this is an unfortunate policy which has been inaugurated more after the Reforms than before (hear, hear). It will be remembered that before the Reforms, and in the Joint Report on Constitutional Reforms, it was stated that local bodies ought to be the first training ground for Self-Government and that as far as possible complete popular control should be allowed to be exercised in the local bodies. I would request hon. Members of this House who have intimate acquaintance with the work of the local bodies, to say whether they feel that they are

more free, that they are more independent, or whether they feel that they are in a worse position than before. I consulted a fairly large number of presidents of local bodies here, and I believe that I am echoing their feelings when I say that people really feel that the restrictions placed by the Government from time to time by some of their executive orders, have placed them in a worse position at present than they were. For some time before the Reforms, there were liberal grants of the Government of India for roads and communications—I think it was a grant of 26 lakhs. I think there was much more discrimination in the distribution among the local bodies. I remember the grants amounted to Rs. 20 lakhs in one year and 6 lakhs in the next year. Many improvements were effected in the conditions of the roads in various districts with the help of the Government grants. I would request the hon. the Minister to verify and say whether at the time of the distribution of grants on such a liberal scale any restrictions or conditions as those now imposed were thought of. And what is the reason for this change? I am afraid one must pause before one can answer this question. If, as a matter of fact, something like 26 lakhs, which is more than the 16 lakhs which my hon. Friend has referred to, was distributed among the local bodies for the purpose of communications without placing any restrictions on them but giving them complete freedom of action, how does it happen that the moment we are called upon to accept this grant, conditions have been laid down which are really productive of considerable hardship. For instance, I may remind the House of the Government Order which has been issued as regards the maintenance of trunk roads, to the effect that the local bodies ought to be absolutely under the control of the Superintending Engineer who may delegate his functions to the Executive Engineer of the district; and on their recommendation a grant is liable to be stopped, omitted or reduced. Suppose a local board goes on spending money—and there are differences of opinion between the executive officers and the presidents of the local or district boards—then, after all the board is placed in an unfortunate position. Again, there are restrictions placed that certain estimates should be prepared by a particular date, or that whatever instructions may be issued they should be carried out and no deviation therefrom should be made. I am mentioning these facts by way of illustration. All these conditions are not calculated to place the local bodies in a better position than they have been up to now. It is stated that the Act has given us more power than before, that local bodies are now in a position to work out their own salvation by means of the various provisions contained in the new Act. But when the Government is given the power of control and when they frame rules so as to restrict the powers of the local bodies, what is the use of the provisions in the Act, however liberal they may be? I therefore wish to state that the Government Order issued for the purpose of controlling the expenditure of grants for the maintenance of trunk roads restricts the powers of the local bodies and hampers their progress. That is one reason why I object to this motion. I also object to the somewhat niggardly policy which the Government have adopted in the matter of dealing with these local bodies. These are my reasons for reducing this grant."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar:—"Sir, the previous speaker raised a number of general questions which no doubt call for early discussion and decision. In view of the fact that the budget is coming off

next month, when we would probably be afforded opportunities for considering those questions as also the general policy, I do not consider it necessary to go into those questions just now. We cannot expect the Government to make a statement on the spur of the moment with regard to the policy they are pursuing. I therefore do not want to follow the previous speaker in what he stated, but, at the same time, I am quite surprised that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has thought it fit not to give any details for the Demand he now wants us to vote for. He has asked for an additional grant of Rs. 72,000. We understood that on the scale on which the grants were proposed to be made to the local boards, the Minister has allotted the amounts in the budget, but now an additional sum of Rs. 72,000 is asked for. For what purpose and on what calculation this additional sum is wanted is not stated. It is not stated whether he wants to favour certain boards and not others, or whether he wants to give particular grants for particular purposes to certain boards, or whether it is only a general question of larger amounts being paid to the boards generally. He has not stated anything at all for justifying this additional sum being granted now, and before we vote for this grant, it is necessary that we should be furnished with details as regards the necessity for this additional sum. Otherwise from what is stated under this grant, we do not know whether it would be necessary to vote for it, and it is absolutely necessary that the necessity for this Demand should be stated, as also whether the Minister bases it on general principles or on the special needs of any particular local boards. All this should be stated before we are asked to vote for this grant."

Rao Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu :—" Mr. President, Sir, do I understand that the sum of Rs. 72,000 also includes grants for any repairs for damages which have occurred recently ? "

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" Sir, the amount asked for does not include the sums required for repairing damages."

Rao Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu :—" Mr. President, Sir, the district board of Guntur suffered a great loss recently on account of damages. With the permission of the Superintending Engineer, Guntur, we incurred some expenditure on that account and we asked the Government for the sanction of the amount. The Government said that they would consider the matter. I wish to know whether even such repairs will not be included in grants like this, on the ground that it is more for the Provincial Government to bear the charges for repairing such damages. I just want to call attention to that point."

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member for Nellore has raised two important questions. Both of them are under consideration. The first of those questions is in regard to the extent of mileage. Of course, the extent of mileage depends on the financial position of the Provincial Government. If the financial position of the Province improve, there could be an increase effected in the extent. As regards the rate at which these grants are made, that question too is under consideration. The Advisory Committee (Local Self-Government) has been consulted in this connexion. They have not yet arrived at a decision. When the Committee arrives at a decision, the Government will consider it thereon. My hon. Friend from Coimbatore has asked for details of this Grant, and the hon. Member, Mr. Moore, will give the details."

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Mr. P. L. MOORE :—"Mr. President, Sir, as the question is raised whether this Demand is supported by figures which would satisfy this Council, I shall give the answer so far as that point is concerned. The maximum grant admissible to district boards and municipalities for trunk roads is about Rs. 16,27,000. Last year, I suppose it was expected that these local boards and municipal councils would not spend up to the maximum limit, and so the figure Rs. 15·41 lakhs was put in the budget. As regards the actuals, I am very glad to say, and I am sure this House will be very glad to hear, that every board utilized the amounts so far as trunk roads are concerned, and there were additional claims, so that, though we budgeted for Rs. 15·41 lakhs, the actuals came up to Rs. 16·27 lakhs. Since this motion was put up, I got the figures compiled. We have on hand a balance of Rs. 2,500 and odd, and we now want Rs. 72,420, so that the total of the claims is Rs. 74,920, and what is now asked for under this demand is the former figure.

"The distribution of the claims is as follows :—

	RS.
Salem District Board	36,609
South Kanara District Board	11,280
Chittoor Municipal Council	2,143
Coimbatore ,, ,, ...	8,331
Vellore ,, ,, ...	1,715
Palghat ,, ,, ...	1,070
Kurnool ,, ,, ...	2,276

"The claims of local bodies yet to be received are as follows :—

	RS.
Rajahmundry	1,417
Anantapur	2,131
Tinnevelly	1,558
Trichinopoly	5,438"

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"Sir, the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has practically read the whole Ramayana omitting Sita throughout, because the hon. Member for Nellore raised various important points and along with those he raised a very important point, namely, the freedom of the local bodies under the reformed Government and in the hands of the Ministry who are after all our own men. This part of the answer the hon. the Chief Minister has avoided and I think I am voicing the real sentiments of the Members of this House when I say that we are all dissatisfied with the gripping hand with which the local bodies are administered and also with the fact that the freedom which the people expected under the Reforms is denied to them. That part of the answer we are anxious to have, and I am sure that the hon. the Chief Minister will give it, or at least that he will give us an assurance that he will be more sympathetic and give us more freedom so as to adjust ourselves within the limits prescribed under certain conditions. These are the replies which we expect from the hon. the Chief Minister and we hope that before the grant is voted upon, he will be pleased to give us some sort of assurance on this point."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, I thought that my Friend from Coimbatore said that the points raised related to the general policy which would be discussed at the time of the budget, and that was why

I did not deal with them. But my general answer to the question raised by Mr. Krishna Rao and the hon. Member for Ganjam is that so long as the Government are making grants, they expect that they should have the power to see that those grants are properly spent. Barring that, the Government are not anxious to interfere in the details of administration. As to the rules which my hon. Friend from Nellore has referred to, they were the rules framed before the introduction of the Reforms. They were framed with the idea that the local bodies which, in maintaining trunk roads act as the agents of the Government, should spend the grants given in such a manner as to afford facilities to the Superintending Engineers for inspection and report on the works. I do not think, Sir, the Ministry can be taken to task for having passed these rules as they had been passed before they came into existence. And I maintain at the same time that the rules are absolutely necessary and without them it will be impossible for the Government to satisfy themselves that the grants they are giving are properly spent."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government Order regarding the management of the trunk roads is, after all, the production of the Ministry ? "

12-45 p.m. The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member, Mr. Krishna Rao, press his motion ? "

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Mr. President, I think I have to reply in view of the observations made by the hon. the Minister. I am rather disappointed that the hon. the Minister has not grappled the full significance of my remarks. I expected that he would see eye-to-eye with me and co-operate in our attempts to get more freedom of action so far as our local bodies are concerned. It would have been more satisfactory if he had made the explicit statement that he is equally interested in seeing that there is no unnecessary interference by the Government with the freedom of action of the local bodies. On the other hand, his justification of an order which was passed after he assumed charge, or shortly before, I think, will place matters on a different footing. But, if he again goes through that order and, on analysis, finds that there is scope for any amount of unnecessary interference between one officer and another, I hope he will see his way to modify that. I must on this occasion express my appreciation of the spirit with which the officers of the department were animated, and I am glad to state that they have been co-operating and have not created any unnecessary difficulties in the way of expending the money on trunk roads. But things are otherwise so far as the rules are concerned ; and I would again request the hon. the Minister to examine the Government Order more carefully. If an officer makes up his mind, he can create a lot of mischief under the rules as at present ; and I hope the hon. the Minister will see his way to see that they are modified. It is true that some officers have co-operated in trying to get the money that we wanted, but the rules from start to finish have been so framed as to cause any amount of friction. It is for that reason that I particularly drew his attention to this Government Order relating to trunk roads, and I hope the hon. the Minister will not merely urge the usual official reply that Government control is necessary and that it cannot be relaxed. I believe the time has come when he will forget all these old theories and re-examine the question from the popular standpoint to see what changes are required to be made in the rules. That

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is the standpoint from which I would request the hon. the Minister to examine it. If the hon. the Minister will give me such an assurance, I shall not press my motion. If he does not give that, I shall have to press it."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I have already told this House that the Government are not anxious to fetter the discretion of the local bodies in their activities. They are only desirous of satisfying themselves that the funds they are granting to the local bodies are properly spent. The hardships in the working of the rules, if any, will be examined and if their revision is found necessary they can be revised."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member (Mr. Krishna Rao) wish to press his motion ? "

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I do not think it is necessary, Sir, to press it to a division, though I must state that the second speech of the hon. the Minister has not thrown any more light than his first speech But, whatever he has said, I hope he will reconsider the matter. With these remarks and with the hope that the hon. the Minister will throw better light on the matter on a future occasion after examining the rules, I withdraw this motion."

The motion of Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu was by leave withdrawn.

The motion that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 72,000 under 41-A. Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Grants to local bodies for the maintenance of trunk roads was then put to the House and carried, and the grant was made.

XIII

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS.

(1) *Standing Orders 46 and 49.*

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, I beg to move that the following amendments to the Standing Orders which have been printed and are in the hands of the Members of this House be taken into consideration :—

(1) *that, in the first clause of Standing Order No. 46, the words ' ten clear days ' be substituted for the words ' six clear days ;'*

(2) *that the following be substituted for clause (2) of the same Standing Order :—*

" (2) *The Secretary shall cause to be printed and made available for the use of Members every notice of an amendment received within the time prescribed under sub-clause (1) and any other such notice that the President may direct to be so printed and made available* " ;

(3) *that the following be substituted for clause (3) of Standing Order No. 49 :—*

" (3) *Where the objection prevails, the Bill shall not be brought forward earlier than three days from the day on which the consideration of the Bill was concluded in Council ; and may then be passed with or without further amendment.*

Note.—This clause shall not apply to Taxation Bills. "

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" It will be observed by Members of this House that a very representative Committee has sat upon these amendments. The object of these amendments may be said to be twofold. We have found from our experience during the lifetime of the last Council that amendments come in at the last moment and that there is not sufficient time for the scrutiny of the amendments so as to enable them to fit in with the frame-work of the Statute itself with the result, as has sometimes happened, that they necessitated further amendments or changes in the law later on. Moreover, there is another aspect of it which will appeal more directly to hon. Members of this House. Members of this House do not get in their hands amendments moved by other Members in time to consider their effect upon the whole, and they cannot scrutinize them and propose amendments in answer to those amendments, or prepare themselves in time to answer those amendments. In order to subserve this purpose, the Committee, of which I have the honour to be the spokesman, have made certain proposals.

" It will be noticed, Mr. President, and you will forgive me if I appear to be somewhat out of order in speaking of a motion for the amendment of S.O. No. 44, standing in the name of my hon. Friend, the Member for Cuddapah—that the object which animates my hon. Friend and myself is the same. He wants more time to be given after the whole consideration is finished and before the Bill assumes the form of a Statute. In order to achieve this purpose, I am perfectly ready, I may at once say, to accept—and I am sure that the Members of this House would accept—his motion also. His motion, I take it, is with reference to S.O. No. 44 (1) (i), and he wants '15 days' to be substituted for 'seven days', so that the Members of this House might have more time to consider those amendments. That is a necessary corollary to the amendments now proposed as has been pointed out and will, I take it, be accepted. As the Committee itself has pointed out, the intention of the two amendments is to give time to the Council Office to print and circulate draft amendments and also to enable the Legislative Department to examine the proposals. Sometimes it has so happened that amendments which at a first sight appeared to be symmetrical with the whole structure of the Bill turned out to have uncontemplated results and it is necessary, therefore, that the Legislative Department and the Council Office should have time to consider these amendments and their proper bearings.

" With these prefatory remarks, I have great pleasure in moving that these amendments be taken into consideration. The procedure is assimilable to the procedure under S.O. No. 49."

Mr. P. Peddiraju :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have no objection to these amendments, but my submission is that if Standing Order 44 is amended, I think it is impossible to get out of the present amendments."

The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" As I said, the other matters will come up immediately afterwards."

The hon. the President : —" I think I may give the hon. Member the assurance that we may go forward with the other amendments in the list and that possibly before this meeting is over the report will be presented."

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu :—" Mr. President, I think the more advisable course is to defer the consideration of these amendments till the amendments under Standing Order 44 are passed. Otherwise,

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supposing these amendments are passed and those under Standing Order 44 are not passed, what will be the effect? The effect will be that the period of seven days prescribed under Standing Order 44 will remain and it will result in absurdity. The rules require that there should be a committee. Therefore, these may be adjourned to the last day. There will not be any difficulty in doing so. No one has a right to anticipate the decision of this House. The House may take a different view when Mr. Narasimhacharlu's amendment comes. To avoid such a contingency, I think the proper course is to have these amendments held over till the others also come up for the consideration of the House."

The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Mr. President, I realize and admit to the full the cogency of my hon. Friend's remarks. But, while it is not open to anyone to pre-judge the attitude of this Council on any matter, it is yet permissible to indulge in the reflection suggested by the general attitude of the Members and their fairly comprehensive silence on this matter that they would take a favourable view to the passage of that measure. I submit that it is not a language of exaggeration when I say that it is practically certain that the other two amendments will be passed. There is no particular object in reduplicating what we have been doing this morning, to-morrow or the day after."

The hon. the President:—"I may add to what the hon. the Law Member has said that we do not finally pass a Standing Order and bring it into operation by the mere fact of its being passed now. It has to be passed like a Bill, a copy of it has to be submitted by the President to His Excellency the Governor, and it is only after His Excellency's assent that the Standing Order begins to be binding on our Council; and I think it is better to let all these processes take place with reference to each Standing Order, as we deal with it, and let it also be passed by the Council. If the House has no objection, I shall put the motion of the hon. the Law Member that the report of the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu:—"Mr. President, I only want to clear up one impression which might have been created with reference to your remarks, Sir. If we are to understand that even if these amendments are to be accepted by this Council, they will not be sent up to His Excellency the Governor for sanction till after the other amendments are disposed of, then there is no difficulty. Otherwise, complications will arise if we accept these amendments till after the other amendments are passed. If we formally pass these amendments and you, in your discretion, Sir, will wait for the other amendments and then send both on to His Excellency the Governor, then there will be no difficulty, and we can accept your assurance."

The hon. the President:—"I think that is the understanding?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Yes, Sir."

The hon. the President:—"On that understanding, I shall put the motion to the House. The procedure is the same as that in respect of a Bill. The motion now before the House is that the report of the Select Committee on the amendments to Standing Orders, which have been presented by the hon. the Law Member, be taken into consideration."

The motion was put and carried.

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The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I now move, Mr. President, with your leave, that these Standing Orders may be passed under a procedure analogous to Standing Order No. 49 (1)."

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—" I second it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The motion before the House is that the amendments to Standing Orders, as printed on the paper, be passed by this House."

The motion was put and carried and the amendments to the Standing Orders were passed.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" We now come to the second amendment, of which notice has been given by the hon. Member, Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu. Under Standing Order 76, I have to read the draft amendments.

" The draft amendments to Standing Order No. 44 (1) (i) run as follows :—

(1) *For* the words 'a copy of the report has' *substitute* the words 'the copies mentioned in Standing Order No. 42 have'.

(2) *For* the word 'seven' *substitute* the word 'fifteen'.

" I ask whether the hon. Member has the leave of the Council.

1 p.m. (After a pause) " Since no one has objected, the hon. Member has the leave of the Council and we have now to proceed on the footing of Standing Order No. 77, which says :

'Where a Member has the leave of the Council to proceed, the draft amendments shall be referred to a Select Committee of which the President shall be chairman, and of which the Deputy President, the Advocate-General (when he is a Member of the Legislative Council) and a chairman of the Council to be nominated by the President shall be members. The remaining members who shall be six in number, shall be selected by the Council by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with the regulations framed in this behalf by the President.'

" It is usual for hon. Members who wish to nominate candidates for the Select Committee to hand in their nominations to the Secretary by a particular hour of the day ; I therefore fix 3 p.m. to-day as the hour by which nominations should reach the Secretary. Then, we shall proceed to carry out the rules in respect of voting."

XIV

DRAFT RULE UNDER SECTION 201 OF THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920.

The hon. the RAJA of PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I beg to move—

That the following draft of the rule proposed to be made by the Local Government under section 201 *of the Madras Local Boards Act,* 1920, *altering Schedule VI of that Act be approved* :—

DRAFT RULE.

In exercise of the powers conferred on them by sub-section (1) *of section* 201 *of the Madras Local Boards Act,* 1920, *the Local Government propose to make the following rule altering Schedule VI of the said Act* :—

'In the list of dangerous diseases specified in Schedule VI the following amendment shall be made, viz.: At the beginning of this Schedule before

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the item " Anthrax " the item " Acute Influenzal Pneumonia " shall be inserted, as also between the items " Plague " and " Smallpox " the item " Relapsing fever ".'

" When this Resolution was moved on the 29th November last, a question was raised whether influenza was a dangerous disease, and it was pointed out that it was not a dangerous disease until it developed itself into an acute influenzal form. It was also pointed out that until it reached a dangerous stage it is inadvisable that it should be classed as a dangerous disease. It was therefore considered that only that particular form of the disease should be included in the category of dangerous diseases. The Surgeon-General was consulted in the matter, and he suggested that ' Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ' can be brought under the class. Sir, in the present amendment the particular stage of influenza alone is contemplated."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai seconded the motion.

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju :—" Mr. President, it has been said that the Surgeon-General was consulted and that he approved the term. I think that it is necessary to convince this House as to the necessity for introducing these words into the statute itself and that the hon. the Minister should place the necessary facts before us. On a former occasion, in the course of the debate, it was said by the Secretary for the Local Self-Government Department that a notification was issued regarding municipal areas. I believe the statement is not correct. According to the definition in the Madras City Municipal Act, dangerous diseases are defined to be such as are notified by the Government and therefore the distinction which be made is with regard to the Corporation of Madras. It may be that the Government, under the definition, is unable to issue a notification declaring these two diseases as dangerous ones in the City of Madras. But, as far as the District Municipalities Act is concerned, dangerous diseases are enumerated in Schedule VI of the Act, and the proper way of adding to the list of dangerous diseases under the District Municipalities Act is not by a notification but by an amendment of the Act. As far as I am aware, no such amendment has been carried out in this House, and if at all anything is done it may be a confusion of ideas."

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" May I point out that, so far as the District Municipalities Act is concerned, the amendment can be made by a rule and that a rule has been passed by G.O. No. 1694, Public Health, dated 11th October 1923, which deals with this question ? The rule has been notified."

Mr. P. L. Moore :—" May I say a word as to the exact position in regard to the three Acts ? As for the Local Boards Act, under section 201, any change has to be done only by this Council ; under section 304 of the District Municipalities Act, the change can be done by Government ; and in the City Municipal Act, under section 329, the change can again be made by Government. It will therefore be seen that it is only in the case of the Local Boards Act that it is necessary to come to this Council for approval where any similar changes have to be made."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju :—" My objection is as to the necessity of having these diseases added to the list of dangerous diseases in rural areas. It may be that the Government might have been advised by

their expert officers that these two diseases must go along with the other diseases in the list. But I am not satisfied as to the necessity of having these diseases added to the list. What is the experience, and what are the circumstances which necessitated the inclusion of these two diseases under the dangerous diseases ? Are there any instances where in actual administration they found the necessity for including these diseases in the list and where in the absence of these being on the list a spread of the disease has taken place ? I am not therefore convinced as to the necessity for this change at this stage.

"Then regarding the dangerous nature of the disease and as to how it can be administered in rural areas, I have great doubts. Because even a man of ordinary education, I believe, will not be able to diagnose what acute influenzal pneumonia is, and much less in the case of relapsing fever. Of course, if we read carefully the sections of the Local Boards Act, many obligations are thrown on the people as to how they should satisfy the conditions of the statute once the disease is included in the list. We know that there is not good medical help or advice available in rural areas. The only consequence of putting these diseases in the list will therefore be to give a handle to the Health Inspector or District Health Officer, when he goes to the village, to say that such and such a man who is suffering from relapsing fever entered a public place and that he is liable to be prosecuted. My sole objection, therefore, is that as long as sufficient knowledge has not spread in rural areas administration of this change will be impossible, and this will only create discontent. If there is a real need for this, and if the local bodies desired as a matter of fact that in the course of administration they found that these diseases should be classified as dangerous diseases, I can understand it. But I do not think the move has come from the local bodies in the course of administration. It may be due to an idealistic doctor that might have said that these two diseases also must be classified as dangerous diseases. If that be the case, I have got very serious objection for including these diseases."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS :—"Mr. President, Sir, we feel the necessity for including both these diseases in the Municipalities Act, as we have had very serious outbreak of both influenza and relapsing fever. We received very large amounts from Government, and we found that we were wasting the money without having some powers to bring these diseases within the Municipalities Act. We are also sending a special Resolution to the Government asking them to include the two diseases in the Act. I can tell the House that a real necessity has been found for inclusion of these diseases, so far as Ootacamund and the Ootacamund municipality is concerned."

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—"I think the hon. Member, Mr. Davis, has misunderstood my hon. Friend, Mr. Narasimha Raju. Mr. Davis spoke of including this in the case of municipalities. Mr. Narasimha Raju has no objection in respect of municipalities, but his point is that these diseases should not be included in the Act applicable to rural areas. Honourable Members are aware that village doctors cannot diagnose these diseases. Inclusion of these diseases in the schedule will therefore lead to oppression by subordinate officials. So, I also strongly object to the inclusion of these diseases in the Local Boards Act."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"I only wish to point out the effect which the inclusion of these diseases will produce. Nobody objects

to the insertion of these words in the list of dangerous diseases so far as it does not create any special hardship in rural areas. We are not now concerned with the question as to whether these diseases are to be included as dangerous diseases or not. That is not the problem. The question is, whether if these diseases are included in the Local Boards Act, this provision will be put into operation as in the case of the other operative portions of the Act. The moment this change is made, persons will become liable to certain disabilities under the provisions of the Local Boards Act. Even among many well-known practitioners and doctors at Madras, there has been a difference of opinion as to the forms of influenza and as to which form is dangerous and which is not. We have to consider what special precautions have to be taken if it becomes necessary for us to have the same identical provision included in the rural areas to ascertain the exact name of the disease. Can it be reasonably expected that persons in rural areas will be in a position to diagnose whether a disease comes under a particular definition or not and render themselves liable to the provisions of the Local Boards Act? It will be found that the sections of the Local Boards Act which have a bearing on the question are sections 130 to 136. It is stated that at any moment the president of the taluk board in non-union areas or the president of the union board in union areas may inspect any place in which any dangerous disease is reputed or suspected to exist, and he is given certain powers of entry for purposes of disinfection. Later on he has to notify places for washing and disinfection.

"Then, persons suffering from the disease are prohibited from carrying on certain occupations under section 133. Section 134 says, that a person cannot enter a conveyance, nor can he travel in a public conveyance and the driver is not bound to take him. Then again we find that power is given to courts to punish even the driver who conveys such men and they will be liable to penalty of Rs. 50. A further penalty provided for in section 134, sub-section 5, which levies a fine to cover the loss and costs of the driver to disinfect any conveyance that the person may have used.

1-15 p.m.

"In view of these provisions of the Local Boards Act affecting persons in the rural areas I would advise the hon. the Minister to pause and wait before he tries to incorporate this provision in the Act. Also we must first try how it works in the City Municipalities. I understand that reference has been made to the Corporation, and we should therefore wait for the result of that reference. That will be the firststage. And then the time will come for these provisions to be incorporated in the District Municipalities Act. They are fairly advanced. In the towns we have got hospitals; and they will be in a position to diagnose and advise the authorities as to what has to be done before it is extended to the rural areas. Our attention has been drawn to this only in October 1923 so far as the municipalities are concerned, and we have no information as to the working of it in the Corporation. But the time will come for the hon. the Minister to consider whether it cannot be inserted in the Local Boards Act, after it has been in operation in the cities and towns, where it is possible to have expert medical aid. In a matter of this description, the best course is that the hon. the Minister will wait and consult the local bodies. It is they that have to administer the provisions; and before consulting them as to the preliminary steps it is not possible to

introduce these amendments into the Act, especially when the provisions are such as will prejudicially affect persons in rural areas. I would make a suggestion that it is inopportune for the hon. the Minister to have this introduced into the local areas, before ascertaining how it has worked in the towns."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :— " Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, has, I am afraid, altogether misunderstood the attitude of the Government. The Government in introducing this amendment have been actuated by the best of motives. In certain areas the ravages from 'relapsing fever' have been very serious and unless some check is effected in the spread of the disease, the disease is likely to assume dangerous dimensions. My hon. Friend wants that we should have the lead from the local boards. It is a scientific question, and I think the opinion of experts is more useful in solving the question. I have only to tell him that in all civilized Governments we have such diseases classed under 'dangerous diseases' and restrictions are imposed in their case. He argued that as yet we have not seen the results of the inclusion of these diseases in the case of the municipal areas. That argument does not appeal to me. Why should we wait and allow the spread of the diseases? As to the argument for the inclusion of these diseases in the category of dangerous diseases we have already had other diseases classed as 'dangerous' and there has been no abuse of application in their case. Similarly in the case of the new diseases which have been classified as dangerous there need not be any abuse in the working of the rules. In these circumstances, I think we have a strong case for introducing the amendment."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I am convinced of the necessity of inclusion of 'relapsing fever' in the municipalities or in the local board areas. It is a very dangerous thing and we had to struggle hard in the Corporation to deal with such cases. But may I request the hon. the Minister to delay this thing till he gets the opinion of the local boards?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, the speaker that has just sat down was one of those who accepted the proposition that 'influenza' is 'dangerous', when it is complicated with pneumonia, and it was on his advice that the question was referred to expert authorities. Now I cannot understand why he should object to this amendment. We have these diseases classed as dangerous in other civilized countries."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I have not objected to it Sir, but in fact I am supporting it. I only wish that he respects the opinion of the local boards. In fact I want this provision to be made in the case of the Madras Corporation immediately."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" May I say a word, Sir? In our district we have had relapsing fever and it was confined only to the depressed classes. The cure that was effected was the shaving of the heads and getting rid of the lice which spread the infection. They required a little bit of nursing, they required food and a little bit of clean clothing. It did not spread to the other class of people. We have to spend some money only to feed them and to give them good diet, and keep them cleanly. That seems to be the cure for relapsing fever. I think that the opinion of the district boards and the local boards should be obtained before it is laid down in the Acts because, as some hon. Members have expressed, it might be worth consulting them. So far as the relapsing fever is

concerned it does not spread to other people but it remains with the Madigas who are very squalid, who have no oil in the hair and no water to clean."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, I will just mention to my Friend, the hon. Member for Anantapur, that Badagas have been suffering very seriously from relapsing fever, and they do not belong to the depressed classes, they are agriculturists."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" Are they clean people ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes, they are fairly clean, as clean as other agricultural classes."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Mr. President, I wish to make one observation. I think the objections raised by my hon. Friends, Messrs. Krishna Rao and Narasimha Raju, with regard to the evil effects of such inclusion in the schedule are not quite well-founded. I know that we have a health establishment and health officers are now travelling through very many rural areas, but the complaint is that they or other members of their staff do not go often into the rural areas and diagnose the strange, new diseases or epidemics. As regards relapsing fever it has already worked very great havoc in the cheries, and if we are to wait for the information of the local boards a good deal of time may be wasted. 'Influenzal pneumonia' in the rural areas is, as the ryots say, a quick-killing fever, very dangerous, and quacks are not able to diagnose it. But the health establishment may. Therefore there is no harm in both these diseases being included in the schedule. Then there will be pressure on the health establishment and they will go into these corners to inspect and diagnose the disease. I think the sooner it is done the better it would be. It would have the effect of making the health establishment, as it is or better, much increased, to go round and make the necessary diagnosis, and see that the ravages of the idseases are put down. It will be better for the Council to put down this fatality very early. In fact in some villages it is impossible for agricultural operations to be carried on."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" There seems to be some confusion in the matter. There is no difference of opinion whatever as regards the dangerousness of these diseases. Relapsing fever may be very bad, influenzal pneumonia might be worse still. But the difficulty is only with regard to the administration of the Act if these two diseases are included. So far as relapsing fever is concerned, I think many in this House will be prepared to admit that they know very little about it, what it is, etc. As regards the other disease 'influenzal pneumonia' I think that the difficulty is as to the diagnosis which will be a matter of extraordinary difficulty. The hon. Member for Trichinopoly will remember that for the whole district of about seven or eight thousand square miles there is only one health officer. I would ask whether it is possible for him to go into every corner and diagnose the disease, either in the case of the relapsing fever or influenzal pneumonia. It is a matter which anybody can see, will be impossible. So, it is not that we do not consider the diseases dangerous, but it is the impracticability of the working of the Act, if the amendment is inserted, that is involved in our consideration. As I said, influenzal pneumonia is a disease very difficult of diagnosis. When it develops it becomes something else, but at what stage it is pneumonia and at what stage it is really

dangerous and should come under the category of 'dangerous', is very difficult for even trained doctors to easily say. It is not upon the very able western doctors that we have to depend, but upon the native physicians who should bear the responsibility of finding out whether a particular disease in a particular area is dangerous; and this I submit is a very difficult matter and will cause great hardship to the poor people. We have got, it is said, a health department; and if we pass this amendment they may probably find work, and make themselves busy in admiuistering it, with what results, we can very easily foretell. After all they are only the old 'vaccinators' now called health officers. If they are to administer these Acts, whether we will be justified in allowing these inspectors to work out the Act in the rural areas is the question which we have to consider here. These diseases are of course dangerous but there is no agency sufficient in the rural parts and it is not likely that for some time to come we can help the villagers to have these properly diagnosed. and assist them in taking proper precautions. It is for these reasons that I have to oppose the motion that has been brought forward.

1-30 p.m.

"I would suggest to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government that, if he is prepared to take my suggestion, he will do well to take up the very large number of amendments to the Local Boards Bill which have been neglected for months. I hope they will be taken soon and till then this amendment may also lie over. For these reasons I am inclined to oppose this motion."

Mr. P. L. MOORE :—"The speech of the hon. Mr. Narasimha Raju and the speeches of other Members have clearly shown why it is that they object to the powers proposed to be taken. They have shown that their object in opposing the amendment is not so much an objection to the rules as such, as a feeling that hardship will result in the actual operation of those rules. I can quite realize their fears. If we look at the sections of the Local Boards Act regarding 'Dangerous Diseases'—section 131 and the following sections—it will be clear to anyone with any knowledge of the conditions of life in rural India that such powers, if abused, could be a source of a real hardship to the people, but I would ask hon. Members of this House to think whether they have ever known of a case in which the subordinates of the Public Health Department have gone about the country prosecuting persons for these offences during the continuance of an epidemic, say, cholera or smallpox. I think the House must recognize the necessity of Government to arm themselves with these drastic powers. The whole thing is in the manner in which the powers are exercised. I am quite sure that the hon. the Minister would without any hesitation give an assurance that these rules will be carried out with sympathy and there will be no coercion of the people. I was glad to hear in the discussion regarding the rules for the inspection of the trunk roads the opinion of the hon. Mr. Krishna Rao that though the rules are stringent the way in which they are carried out by the officers of the Public Works Department is unexceptionable. I am quite sure that the same will be said of the way in which these powers will be exercised by the Health Department."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I should like to offer a few remarks on this motion. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, has rightly said that the relapsing fever is a very dangerous epidemic. It is true, Sir, that it

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carries away many men. It is true, Sir, that in municipalities several innocent and good people have been carried away by this disease. In Coimbatore district also several people fell victims. Well, Sir, we have got village officers and village menials in every district. But, Sir, whenever a member of the depressed classes is dying, they think that some angel or spirit is at work. Sir, I am sure this rule will protect the lives of a large number of the depressed classes. As there w ll be health officers and health inspectors in each district, I do not think there will be much difficulty in facing these dangerous diseases. I am sure the House will support the amendments and see that they do not suffer for want of support. With these few remarks, I support the motion."

Mr. P. Anjaneyalu :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Moore, said that a large number of lives are saved by the precautions of the health officers and others in respect of diseases like smallpox and plague. In the rural areas people do not mix with the patients suffering from smallpox and cholera not because that the gentlemen like health officers and others are armed with powers but because smallpox and cholera are very dangerous diseases. Out of self-preservation no one will allow a man suffering from smallpox and cholera to approach him. But these two diseases, namely, acute pneumonia and relapsing fever, are things in which eminent doctors differ in their diagnosis. That being the case, we are putting a powerful weapon in the hands of possibly unscrupulous ill-paid agency who do not go to give relief but only to penalize. If they enter a house for purposes of disinfection or for giving some information in regard to the nature of diseases just in the case of influenza, that is well and good. But here we are putting in the schedule two diseases whereby, if a man unconsciously or unknowingly suffers, he is taken to task and penalized in rural areas. There is no agency to tell them anything about these diseases and give them succour. It is quite possible from our experience in the rural areas in other matters especially in the early days of plague that these powers will be ill-used. We believe that the same thing will occur over again and therefore the opinion of the local bodies may be consulted to see how far it will be practicable for them to wield these powers. If it is possible to diagnose the disease and if the people do not obey the instruction given by the authorities, then it will be time enough to penalize. I hope the hon. the Minister will see his way to at least postpone the measure for future consideration, especially in view of the fact that he is going to bring in a Bill to amend the Local Boards and Municipalities Act."

At this stage (1-40 p.m.) the House rose for lunch.

After lunch—2-30 p.m.

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" Sir, I have already replied to the various points raised in the debate and there is nothing more for me to add now, except that if these diseases are classified as dangerous diseases, it is not the idea that the operation of the rule should in any way unnecessarily inconvenience the people. The rule is intended for the good of the people. The object is to prevent the spread of the dangerous diseases. Government want to have power to deal with cases of this nature whenever these dangerous diseases begin to spread. I do not therefore think that hon. Members need have any apprehension as to the abuse of the rule.

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"It has been said that the Government should in these matters consult the local bodies. This is a matter of a purely technical nature and the Government are generally guided in such matters by the opinions of experts. If it is not a matter of purely technical nature, Government would have welcomed the suggestion to consult the local bodies. But in the present case I do not think Government would do well to take the advice of local bodies against that of the experts."

The motion was put and carried.

XV

NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—"Mr. President, I have the honour to move :

> *That with reference to G.O. No. 55 Ry., dated 10th December 1923, this Council do accept the invitation to nominate two members of the Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway and request hon. the President to make such arrangements as he deems fit for enabling the Council to make its selection.*

"The circumstances under which I make this motion are clearly set out in the Government Order to which reference is made and which has already been placed on the table of this House. At the instance of the Railway Board, the various Railway Companies in India have decided to set up local advisory councils to advise the Agent on such details of railway management as may be referred to them. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway has decided to appoint an advisory committee of ten of whom one member has been elected by the Corporation of Madras, one by the Chamber of Commerce, one by the South Indian Chamber of Commerce and one by the Indian Passengers' Association, while there are also members to represent the Government of Bombay, the Government of Mysore and the Government of Madras. To complete the committee the Agent has intimated that he will be glad to have two Members of the Legislative Council of the Government of Madras to be appointed by the Government. The Government on the other hand consider it very much better, that while the nomination might nominally be in their hands, the selection should be made by this Council. Temporarily, during the last few months, these places have been filled by two Members of the last Council who were nominated by the Government as the Council was not at that time sitting. We now take the earliest opportunity of asking the Council to accept the invitation and select two of its Members. If the Council sees fit to adopt that proposal I have to request you, Mr. President, to make such arrangements as you deem fit for enabling the Council to make its selection."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I second it".

The motion was put and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It remains for me to lay down the method by which the election shall be held. I would suggest that hon. Members hand in nominations to the Secretary before 5 p.m. to-day. Ballot papers will be distributed to them at any convenient time to-morrow and an election will then be held. The election will be by the ordinary method—not by the single transferable vote."

THE TAMIL NADU ... MAHAL

XVI

THE TUTICORIN PORT TRUST BILL.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Sir, I beg to present the report* of the Select Committee on the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill and to move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

" I think the Council will agree that the report of the Committee does not call for any long speech from me ; but I should like to mention that it is a unanimous report and that the Committee included every Member of this House who is connected with the Tinnevelly district in which the port lies and among them representatives of all the local interests concerned with the one exception of the Chamber of Commerce, the body which is perhaps more interested than any other.

" The only point of importance in which the Bill has been amended is as regards the representation of Indian trade on the Board. Here we found ourselves in a difficulty owing to the fact that there is at present no Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin. In order to secure the principle of election we have provided for election by the Municipal Council. But the Committee, fearing that that would not ensure the election of gentlemen interested in the sea-borne trade, have made an amendment of the Bill in order to secure that, if these interests are not represented by election, they should be represented by nomination. I have since proposed, in consultation with the Drafting Department, a further slight amendment to the Bill in this respect in order to avoid ambiguity. The other changes are for the most part verbal and involve no point of principle.

" I beg to move, Sir, that the Bill be taken into consideration."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I second it."

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was put and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is now within my discretion to submit
2-45 p.m. the Bill in whole or in part, or to submit it clause by clause. I take it that the Council prefers the latter method."

Clauses 1 to 4.

No motions for amendments having been moved, clauses 1 to 4 were put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 5.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" I beg to move the following amendment :—

' 1. *That the first two paragraphs be numbered as sub-clauses* (1) *and* (2) *and the word ' Explanation ' inserted before paragraph* 3 '.

" The amendment is one of a formal nature and I do not think that it is likely to provoke any criticism. I formally move it."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

* Printed separately.

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of Commerce. Then again, anticipating that the representatives of the Municipal Council may not be business men, we have made a further provision the effect of which is that, if they are not, two Indians engaged in sea-borne trade at Tuticorin will be nominated by the Government.

"Now let us examine the results of these provisions upon the constitution of the Trust. Supposing we have, as is most desirable at the outset, the Collector as the nominated chairman. We have then three essential expert members—the Port Officer, the Executive Engineer and the Collector of Customs. This gives us a total of four, of whom the Collector and the Customs Collector may or may not be Indians. The Port Officer will be an European because there are no Indians holding the necessary qualifications for the post, and the Executive Engineer also is likely to be so because it is difficult to secure Indians with training in harbour engineering. This gives us a practical certainty of two Europeans and a possibility of four. There will then be three representatives of the Chamber of Commerce who will all be Europeans, two representatives of the Municipal Council who are likely to be Indians, and, since they are not likely to be Indians engaged in sea-borne trade, we may add two nominated Indian traders. This gives a total of eleven, of whom it is likely that at least five will be Europeans and at least four Indians. The Collector of the district and the Collector of Customs may be an European, one or the other. Supposing both are Indians, the hon. Member's purpose will be fulfilled. There will be six Indians out of eleven. Supposing one is an European, there will be five Indians out of eleven, but we could rectify the inequality by nominating another Indian. But supposing that both are Europeans, there would be no means of setting the matter right except by getting rid of one of the official members who would have to be the Collector. In other words, the adoption of the hon. Member's proposition would bring us back to exactly the same position as the adoption of his proposition that only three of the members shall be officials, viz., that we could never have an independent official in charge.

"It would have this further effect, that we could not have an outside independent non-official if he were a European. Thus, supposing for the moment that we found that the agent of the bank or some other non-official possessed the confidence of all communities and was welcome as a non-official Chairman. We could not put him in that place except at the cost of ejecting one of the essential expert members for the time being. And in any case we should be barred from nominating a representative of the railway company, who is almost as essential as the official experts.

"I hope I have said enough to show that the maintaining of the proportions which appear in the draft Bill is not a racial matter, but a question of getting the best men available for creating an essentially business body.

"I have already said that the conflict of interests, if it exists, will be not between Indians and Europeans, but between different bodies of business men whatever race they may belong to, and I sincerely hope that no question will ever arise on which the Indians will be found ranged on the one side and the Europeans on another. Should such a case occur, however, I would ask the House to remember that the Indian non-officials will form a preponderating majority over the European non-officials and that the purpose for which the officials are proposed to be put on the Trust is not to take part in

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controversies of that sort, but to give expert advice in matters relating to the departments under their charge."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I quite agree with the hon. Member in charge of the Bill that we should not think of introducing any racial classification into the Bill. But in considering this provision you have to take the Bill as it stands. The Bill as it emerged from the Select Committee has introduced some qualifications and it is for us to see whether they require modification. In coming to a conclusion regarding this clause, I would point out that it is necessary to consider this clause along with clause 6 and the possible amendments to be embodied therein, so that the House may know as to how the Bill stands if some of the amendments are carried. It will be seen that in sub-clause (5) it is stated :

'The Board shall consist of such number of Trustees not being less than nine or more than thirteen including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman as the local Government may notify.'

and taking this number, i.e., nine as the basis, it is stated in sub-clause (2) of clause 5 ' not less than three of the Trustees shall be Indians and not more than four shall be Government officials.' But clause 5, as stated above, makes a provision for not less than nine or more than thirteen including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman as the local Government may notify. Therefore, the proportion of Indians which has been fixed under this Bill, taking the total strength as nine, cannot be a correct proportion. If the Government makes up its mind to increase the strength to thirteen, and if you fix the strength of Indian Members as three and that of the Government officials as four, this cannot reasonably be expected to satisfy the Indians. There is no provision so far as the Bill goes for the augmentation of this number.

"May I also point out, Sir, that with reference to clause 6 it will be found in clause 6 (2) that provision will be made for the election of three Indian Trustees. In clause 6 (1) it is stated :

'Of the remaining Trustees three shall be elected by the Members for the time being of the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce and two by the Members for the time being of the Tuticorin Municipal Council.'

"and in clause 6 (2) it is stated :

'An election under sub-section (1) shall be held subject to such directions prescribing the qualifications of the persons to be elected as may be given by the local Government with a view to securing that at least three Indians and not more than four Government officials shall be the Members of the Board.'

"I am trying to show by quoting these sections that according to the scheme of the Bill the three Indians provided for in section 5 (2) are Members who have to come to the Board by means of election, otherwise there is no meaning in clause 6 (2).

"The hon. the Leader of the House has given notice of an amendment to omit that sub-clause. I cannot anticipate the decision of the House upon an amendment which has to be moved hereafter. It will be seen that section 6, sub-section (4), states :

'The remaining Trustees, two of whom at least shall be Indians engaged in sea-borne trade at Tuticorin, shall be appointed by the local Government.'

"This amendment should not come in sub-section (2) of section 5. Therefore if we consider the combined effect of section 5 and section 6 and the possible amendments, the result is that two persons

3 p.m.

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business being transacted. As many days of this meeting as are necessary will be reserved for the official business of which notice has been given. As regards more days, I shall consider the matter very carefully in consultation with the hon. the Leader of the House."

IX

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The hon. the PRESIDENT then conveyed to the Council the following Message from His Excellency the Governor regarding the manner in which certain communications are made by him to the Council :—

Message.

'With reference to Standing Order 69 of the Standing Orders of the Madras Legislative Council which recites two ways in which communications are made by the Governor to the Council, I desire it to be understood that the two ways mentioned in the rule are not exhaustive, and that I propose to continue the practice followed during the past three years in this Council, and which is common to similar Assemblies in other parts of the Empire, under which a less formal means of communication is adopted when the occasion is suitable. In particular, I propose to pursue the practice hitherto adopted under which my recommendation in relation to a proposal for the appropriation of provincial revenues is communicated through a Member of my Government.

28th January 1924. WILLINGDON.'

X

ELECTION OF TWELVE MEMBERS TO THE SENATE.

The hon. the PRESIDENT then announced the names of the twelve Members elected as Members of the Senate from the non-official Members of the Council :—

1. Rao Bahadur O. Tanikachala Chettiyar.
2. Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.
3. ,, A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
4. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
5. Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao.
6. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
7. Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
10. ,, P. T. Rajan.
11. ,, C. Gopala Menon.
12. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur.

XI

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(1)

The SECRETARY laid on the table * copies of—

(i) the order of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as notification No. 108, dated 18th December 1923, appointing M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur Lewis Dominic Swamikannu Pillai Avargal, C.I.E., I.S.O., as President of the Legislative Council;

(ii) the order of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as notification No. 109, dated 18th December 1923, appointing M.R.Ry. Rasipur Varatha Krishna Ayyar Avargal, B.A., M.L., as Secretary to the Legislative Council;

(iii) the order of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as notification No. 4, dated 17th January 1924, appointing M.R.Ry. Colattur Satagopa Achariyar Avargal, B.A., as Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Council.

* Printed as Appendix III on pages 119-120 infra.

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Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move that in place of the word 'three' in paragraph 2 of clause 5, the word 'one-third' be substituted."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I beg to second it."

The clause as amended was put and carried.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Sir, I beg to move :

'3. *that in paragraph 2, clause 5, after the word 'Indians' the words 'of whom two shall be persons engaged in sea-borne trade at Tuticorin be inserted'.*'

" This, again, is a formal amendment."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I beg to second it."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I think that a small verbal amendment ought to be inserted here. I find these words in the amended sub-section 4 of section 6. The words 'at least' must also find a place here before the word 'Indians'. Having stated that two at least shall be Indians either from among the nominated or elected Members, that can be prescribed as a minimum."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :— " Sir, 'two shall be' does not preclude that three may be. Two is only the minimum."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—" Sir, I beg to move :

'That in paragraph 2 for the word "four" substitute "one-third".'

" At present if there are nine Members, Government Members would be four. My amendment will show that if there should be even 13 Members the Government officials cannot be more than four. I think that Government will accept this. The Government can be satisfied with one-third of the trustees being officials."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Sir, I beg to second the motion."

The amendment was then put and carried.

Clause 6.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Sir, I beg to propose the following Amendment :—

'That in clause 6, sub-clause (1), the words "and Vice-Chairman" should be omitted.'

"The reason for this amendment is shortly this. The Government propose to appoint both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. The object of my amendment is to leave at least the Vice-Chairman to be elected by the Trustees of the Board. I do not see any special reason why Government should have in their hand the powers of appointing both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. This is a Board in which some are elected and some are nominated. And I have no doubt that, in course of time, the Indian influence will be felt in this board. Secondly, it is desirable that members

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of the board shall have the power of appointing one of their own members as vice-chairman, both with the object of helping the chairman and also of learning the art of administering that particular board. It is with that view, Sir, that this amendment has been proposed. Later on, it will be seen that I propose also that the vice-chairman shall be elected by the members of the board. I move that the words 'and vice-chairman' be omitted from this clause."

Mr. C. Gopala Menon :—"Sir, I beg to second the motion."

The hon. Sir Charles Todhunter :—"Sir, while I am anxious to meet the hon. Member as far as possible, I venture to think that he is asking me to go a bit too far in his direction on this occasion.

"In the first place, I should like to point out that there is none among all the large Harbour authorities in India that has accepted the principle of election which he urges, and if therefore we accepted his amendment, we should have the spectacle of the precocious infant of Tuticorin in the leading strings of its nursery maid from Cuddapah showing the way to the staid old bodies at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. I venture to think it wise that the infant should learn to walk before it tries to run, especially since it cannot always have its nursery maid in attendance.

"Nor is it right to draw analogies from the case of local self-government. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, in introducing a similar Bill in the Bombay Legislative Council, laid great stress on the fact that a Port Trust is a business body and not a training ground in local self-government. Moreover, the interests represented are quite different. A municipality consists of representatives of rate-payers whose interests are all homogeneous and who can therefore easily elect a chairman who will represent them. The case of a Port body is different. The interests there cannot, by any means, be called homogeneous. There are the representatives of the owners of ships who pay the port dues and charge the freight. There are interests of the landing and shipping agents, who have capital invested in lighters and levy charges from the importers and exporters of goods. And there are importers and exporters of goods who pay the tariff fixed on goods, the charges of the landing and shipping agents and the freight charged by the steamer companies. In addition to all these, there are expert or official interests.

"It will be evident that it is by no means an easy matter to secure a proper balance of power among all these conflicting interests, that it is quite a different thing to allow them to elect a chairman from allowing the representatives of the tax-payers in a municipality to elect a chairman from among their members.

3-15 p.m.

"In the next place, I should like to point out that one of the two, the chairman or the vice-chairman, will have ordinarily to be the administrative officer of the Trust and for that purpose a full-time officer. And if we are forced by this amendment to insist that the vice-chairman should be an elected non-official, we are also forced into the position that we must once appoint a full-time official chairman. Now, I have no doubt that in course of time we shall find it desirable to do so. But I very much doubt if the port can afford an officer of the class in question at the outset, and in fact, I am inclined to think that the present arrangement, according to which

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the works are done by the Harbour Engineer's Department on payment of a percentage on the estimates, is as cheap and satisfactory an arrangement as can be made.

"In fact, the arrangement which I was contemplating at the outset was to let the Port Officer, who has hitherto carried on most of the administrative duties of the port, continue to do so in the capacity of vice-chairman, until we see how the balance of interests works out, and until the Trust has had time to find its feet, to let the Collector of the district, or the Sub-Collector if he is an officer of sufficient seniority, give his general administrative experience to directing matters from the chair. This arrangement again will, of course, be impossible if the amendment is accepted.

"I have given much anxious thought to the question whether I could not find some course that will meet the wishes of the hon. Member without involving us from the outset in the difficulties to which I have referred. The best I have been able to devise since the receipt of the notice of his amendment is, instead of adopting the various changes which he proposes to introduce throughout the Chapter, to add at the end of the Chapter a clause making it legal for the Government to declare by notification that the post of vice-chairman shall be declared elective subject to rules prescribed. I have an amendment in these terms ready here, and with your permission, Sir, and the permission of the House, I shall be willing to move it when we reach the close of the Chapter (clause 22). I hope that this undertaking will satisfy the hon. Member and serve him in lieu of the amendment which he has put forward."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Sir, before trying to meet the hon. the Leader of the House, I have to say one or two words in reply to what he said. He seems to think that a Member from Cuddapah situated as it is far from any port, has got very little to do with any port. But I beg to remind him that I am an Indian and the port concerned is an Indian port.

"The hon. the Leader of the House seems to think that we Indians always require the help of a nursery maid, whatever may be our attainments and whatever may be the length of time that we remain under the benign grace of the British Government. He seems to think that we should begin always under the nursery maid of the British. I must tell him that it shall not be so.

"The hon. the Leader of the House says there is no such precedent at all either in Bombay or in Calcutta or in Madras or in any other part of the Empire. Well, Sir, my answer to that is this: Those Acts were passed in pre-Reform days when democratic ideals had not taken root in the hearts of the people. We are now trying to legislate for new ports. Let us not lag behind in our democratic ideals and let us not hesitate to introduce the elective franchise as much as possible wherever it can be done. Therefore, Sir, the analogy of the three ports mentioned by the hon. the Leader of the House has nothing to do with the legislation in question.

"As regards the other details referred to by the hon. the Leader of the House, I quite appreciate them and certainly it is not my desire to bring difficulties in the way of the smooth and successful working of this port. On the assurance of the hon. the Leader of the House I have no objection to withdraw my amendment at present."

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 127 asked by Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1924, page 42 supra.]

Extract of paragraph 29 *of B.P. No.* 305, *dated* 22*nd January* 1858.

29. In Tanjore when assessed lands were planted with topes, the practice is to suspend the assessment and substitute a tree tax which is collected on all fruit bearing at fixed rates for each kind. In reply to the Board's enquiry whether it would not be advisable to abolish the system and levy the land tax always, the Collector replies that the change would be disadvantageous to the Government and the people. To the former it would cause an immediate loss of revenue to the amount of Rs. 14,478-4-1, while as regards the latter it would remove the encouragement which is now given to keep up and extend valuable plantations by no charge being made for the land while the trees are young and fruitless. Although therefore the toll system is cumbrous and has some disadvantages as remarked by Government, it has procured for this Province the great desideratum of a plentiful supply of valuable fruit trees and has increased the revenue and the prosperity of the landholders.

Extract of paragraphs 2 *and* 3 *of Board's Resolution No.* 9542, *dated* 17*th December* 1892.

2. The tree-tax system of Tanjore is peculiar to the district. The question whether it should be abolished and a land tax substituted for it was considered in 1855-58, but it was decided that it should be maintained as it gave very satisfactory results in the encouragement of tree-planting. So recently as in 1885 also Government held the opinion that no change should be made in the existing practice of the district.

E.M.C. No. 298, dated 6th March 1858.
G.O. No. 448, dated 20th April 1885.
G.O. No. 42, dated 20th January 1886.
G.O. No. 117, dated 13th February 1886.

3. Under this system which applies only to fruit trees, there are different rates for the different kinds of fruit trees. Trees on inam and patta lands and on private porambokes, such as Asamikarai (margins of fields) and backyards attached to house-sites, were exempted from tax in E.M.C. No. 655, dated 31st May 1855, paragraph 7, and E.M.C. No. 298, dated 6th March 1858, paragraph 10, but it is not clear whether full effect has been given to the exemption as regards trees situated on field banks. Generally, however, the tax is now confined to topes other than those planted under the tope rules and to trees on waste land, assessed or unassessed, or poramboke. The tax is levied when the trees begin to bear and private individuals are allowed to plant them on waste and poramboke lands. The trees thus taxed are treated as the property of the mirasidar or ryot who pays the tax, and he is at liberty to fell or otherwise dispose of them at his pleasure.

gives power to the Government to publish a notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* authorizing the trustees to elect a vice-chairman under certain conditions, but nobody knows how many years it may take for the issue of that notification. Even when power to appoint presidents of local boards was given in 1884, under an Act which was passed in Lord Ripon's time, it took nearly 40 years for the Government to make such appointments in District Boards. Therefore, I do not think we can look very hopefully for anything substantial being done by the acceptance of the amendment which is going to be moved by the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter. Now that Mr. Narasimhacharlu has withdrawn his amendment, I think the next best thing will be to insist upon one of them being an Indian. Because, if the Governor makes up his mind to appoint an Indian, the necessary training may be given to him afterwards. How often does it happen that some appointments are made and persons are sent abroad for the purpose of gaining experience. If the Government is prepared to get an Indian trained, if necessary, in these administrative matters, I am quite certain that it is possible to find a way to satisfy all these requirements. I think this amendment deserves to be accepted by this House, especially when the House failed to secure an elected vice-chairman."

Mr. A. J. LEECH :—" Sir, I wish to say a few words on the amendment before the House. I am of opinion that it would be ill-advised to have an elected vice-chairman or to have an Indian as chairman or vice-chairman. I do not think the Port would agree to have a highly-paid engineer as chairman as we have in Madras. In the absence of such a chairman, the vice-chairman will have to do most of the work and it is not possible to expect an elected vice-chairman to do all the work. I think it would be much better to accept the hon. the Finance Member's suggestion."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Mr. President, Sir, England has taken upon herself the high responsibility of training Indians in all institutions of self-government. It pains me to hear the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter, representing the best minds of England, saying that Indians have yet to be trained to manage a port. This sort of pretext, I am sure, will not deceive even a child. The amendment of my hon. Friend from Kistna asks for the appointment of an Indian officer to be the chairman or vice-chairman.

" Well, Sir, the option is left to the Government. If they think that an Indian is not yet fit to be entrusted with the charge of being a chairman, they can nominate or see that an Indian is elected.
3-30 p.m.
I quite realize the difficulty of placing restrictions when we give the franchise of election to a board of trustees. They can nominate an Indian as vice-chairman or they can nominate an Indian as chairman, and that would be quite reasonable. I would appeal to the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter to think as to what would be his anxiety if proposals are brought forward and considered in the British Parliament for having Indian trustees in the port of Liverpool. I am sure the English people would resent it. Sir, in asking for this small thing, I am sure we are not asking for the moon. Then, the next thing is a comparison between the old Local Boards Act and this Bill. I think it is a good comparison because the district board presidents' posts were occupied by Collectors ex-officio and still the office of the vice-chairman was left open for election. Similarly, this place, be it by election or nomination, may be

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reserved for an Indian. There is no trouble and I do not think it would place any restriction on the Government. I would therefore appeal to him and his better sense to accept the very reasonable proposal of my hon. Friend from Kistna."

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—" Sir, of course, the only objections that were put forward by the hon. the Leader of the House are that he may not be able to get an efficient Indian who is a man with business capacities. I am sorry that the Leader of the House with such experience of India could not find people fit to be chairmen or vice-chairmen of a single port trust. The Government have been able to find Executive Council Members and Chief Engineers for Irrigation; but all the same it is a pity that when a Chief Engineer could be found for this Presidency, an engineer who can be a vice-chairman and an Indian cannot be found for a single port trust. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the House, also said that an engineer or a collector of the same place may have to be appointed vice-chairman of the port trust. Among collectors there are several Indians, and any one of these may be appointed as collector of the place and also be appointed vice-chairman. All that I want is that Indian talent and patriotism should be used in improving the ports. So, I hope that the hon. the Leader of the House will at least accept this slight amendment."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Mr. President, I have listened with very great interest to the various proposals by means of which we can get over the difficulties which I have ventured to point out in regard to this matter. One of them, as I have already suggested, is to impose restrictions on the freedom of election, but this is by no means the only sort of restrictions suggested in order to secure this desirable end. First of all, taking them in the reverse order, the hon. Gentleman who has just sat down suggests that we should reserve the Tinnevelly district always for an Indian Collector. Now, is it seriously proposed that, in order to have an Indian vice-chairman for the Tuticorin Port Trust, we should always in perpetuity reserve that one particular district for a Collector of one particular race?

" Then, he went on to say that we could get Indians as Executive Councillors and Chief Engineers, but Executive Councillors and Chief Engineers"

Sriman BISWANATHA DAS Mahasayo :—" May I add Governors also?" (Laughter.)

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Yes, and Governors also. May I say, Sir, that even Governors get salaries and is it going to be very easy for this struggling little infant body to pay the salary of a Chief Engineer or an Executive Councillor or even a Governor in order to secure the desirable end of having the vice-chairman of the port trust of a particular race?

" Another hon. Gentleman appealed to my better sense. I am going to repeat the appeal to him. He asked me what I would say if an Indian trustee were appointed to the port of Liverpool. My answer is, if he was a competent person, that would be a splendid thing. He said again that even a child would not be deceived by the quotation which I have made

from a speech by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad. Well, I am not a child, but I agree entirely with what Sir Chimanlal Setalvad said, namely, that this is a business matter and that a body such as a port trust should not be treated as a training school for local self-government. He again said that we must get Indian officers for these administrative posts, and the hon. Member Mr. Krishna Rao said that of course we could do that and could send them to England or somewhere else to be trained. But my difficulty is that the proposition is to make this condition at once. We are at the very beginning of the constitution of the port trust, and the effect of his proposal would be to hold up the constitution of the port trust until we had had a gentleman trained in maritime engineering and he was ready to take over the direction of the work. Or are we to leave over the constitution of the port trust until the Indian Mercantile Marine is constituted and we can secure an Indian officer who has secured a first mate's certificate to take up the work of the port officer ?

"I have said, Sir, that we are very anxious to help hon. Gentlemen in this matter and I have already offered to propose an amendment which I think will go a very long way to meet their wishes. But here we have got conflicting interests. One of these two posts which we have put down in the Bill must be filled by an administrative officer, and that administrative officer, by reason of the nature of the post, may have for the time being to be a European. Therefore, if we are compelled to appoint an Indian to the other post, we must choose him for the post which is not administrative, and we wish to fill that post by election. Therefore, we must tie our hands in respect of the person to be elected. It seems to me there is no escape from that position and that the two things are not compatible. As I have said already, we are anxious to see Indian trade develop. But we are already making a very big experiment in constituting a port trust at all, and in making that experiment want to start by having the present administrative officer to work with the help of the Collector of the district until the trust has been got into working order. When that has been done it will be time to think of making the vice-chairmanship elective or of prescribing that it shall be held by an Indian. If you pass this amendment, you will either prevent our doing all this or will compel us to earmark a particular district for an Indian Collector. There is nothing more objectionable than transfers of officers, and I don't think that Members will wish to inflict a transfer on Tinnevelly for such a reason."

Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ :—"I support the suggestion made by the hon. the Leader of the House, especially as this Port Trust Bill is in its infancy. Let me say at once that I was in favour of election of the vice-chairman or that he should be an Indian, but since the answer and the assurance given by the hon. the Leader of the House, I am inclined to think that it is not so necessary to have an Indian now. The House has got ample opportunities and time enough to introduce such kinds of amendments as this, and therefore we need not insist on this amendment now. With these words, I support the suggestion made by the hon. the Leader of the House."

The amendment of Mr. Peddiraju was then put and declared lost.

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On the motion of Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu, a poll was taken, and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

1. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
2. ,, T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.
3. Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.
4. Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu.
5. ,, C. V. S. Narasimha Raju.
6. Mr. P. Siva Rao.
7. ,, A. Chidambara Nadar.
8. ,, K. Kotti Reddi.
9. ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
10. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
11. Mr. M. Gangarazu.
12. ,, S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
13. ,, C. Gopala Menon.
14. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu.
15. Mr. P. Peddiraju.
16. ,, V. C Vellingiri Gounder.
17. ,, J. A. Saldanha.
18. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo.
19. Mr. M. Seetayya.
20. ,, M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
21. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
22. ,, Sami Venkatachala Chettiyar.
23. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
24. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai.
25. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
26. Mr. S. Satyamurti.
27. ,, T Adinarayana Chettiyar.
28. ,, C. Maruthavanam Pillai.
29. Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao.
30. Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.
31. ,, P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
32. ,, Abbas Ali Khan.
33. ,, G. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib.
34. ,, Abdul Hye Sahib.
35. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib.
36. Mr. T. M. Moidoo Sahib.
37. ,, Muhammad Moosa Sait Sahib.
38. ,, T. N. Bava Ravuttar Muhammad Sahib.
39. Khan Sahib Saiyid Diwan Abdul Razaak Sahib.
40. Mr. K. Uppi Sahib.
41. Munshi Abdul Wahab Sahib.
42. Mr. Janab Muhammad Yahya Ali Sahib.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir Charles Todhunter.
2. ,, Sir Arthur Knapp.
3. ,, Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
4. ,, the Raja of Kollengode.
5. ,, the Raja of Panagal.
6. ,, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai.
8. Mr. R. W. Davies.
9. ,, E. W. Legh.
10. ,, C. Madhavan Nayar.
11. ,, P. L. Moore.
12. ,, G. F. Paddison.
13. ,, H. Tireman.
14. ,, J. A. Davis.
15. ,, A. J. Leech.
16. Mr. Bradford Leslie.
17. ,, Ari Gowder.
18. ,, S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
19. Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez.
20. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan.
21. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu.
22. Mr. B. Maniswami Nayudu.
23. ,, C. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
24. ,, P. C. Muttu Chettiyar.
25. ,, B. Obalesappa.
26. ,, K. S. Ponnuswami Pillai.
27. ,, J. D. Samuel.
28. Sir K. Venkatareddi Nayudu.
29. Rao Bahadur O. Tanikachala Chettiyar.
30. Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria.

Ayes 42. *Noes* 30.

The motion was carried.

Clause 6, *Sub-clause* (2).

3-45 p.m. The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Mr. President, I beg to move

'*That sub-clause* (2) *be omitted and the subsequent sub-clauses be re-numbered.*'

" This is consequent on the amendment to clause 5 which has already been accepted."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried and the amendment made.

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—" Sir, in view of my amendment to clause 5, I think the next amendment standing in my name does not arise."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" May I submit, Sir, that the sub-clause has been omitted, so that the next three amendments fall out ? "

Clause 6, sub-clause (4) now numbered (3).

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Sir, I beg to move an amendment as follows :—

Omit the following words in existing sub-clause (4) :—

'*two of whom at least shall be Indians engaged in sea-borne trade at Tuticorin.*'

Again, Sir, this is a consequential amendment to the amendment already carried to clause 5."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" I beg to move, Sir

That at the end of the existing sub-clause (4), the following words be added :—

'*with due regard to the provisions contained in sub-section (2) of section 5.*'

" This is a further consequential amendment with reference to the amendment to section 5 which has just been carried."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 6 was then put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 7.

There being no amendments to clause 7 the clause was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 8, Sub-clause (1).

Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU :—" Sir, I want to add an additional sub-clause (*f*) to clause 8 (1). The amendment runs as follows : —

Add the following as item (f) :—

'*(f) is a white born British subject of any British colony unless specially exempted by the Local Government*'.

" The reasons which prompted me to move this amendment are all known to this House. Last time, hon. Members of the House discussed about the boycott of the British Empire Exhibition, and the reasons which prompted the Members of this House to vote for that Resolution also prompted me to bring in this amendment. Hon. Members are aware how the Indians are being treated in all these colonies. The Colonial Governments won't allow Indians to live in good places, won't allow them to trade, won't grant them licences, and now this amendment —a small amendment indeed when compared with the hardships imposed upon us—that the white born British subject of any British colony should not be allowed to be a trustee of the port of Tuticorin is a small thing. I have also added a conditional clause to my

amendment, viz., 'unless specially exempted by the Local Government', with a view to see that if there is a colony which is in good terms with the Indians, that particular colony may be exempted.

"I think I need not add anything upon this subject at length, because last time we have discussed the whole subject, and so I submit that this amendment may be accepted by this House."

Sriman SASIBHUSHANA RATH Mahasayo :—"I second it."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—"Mr. President, the hon. Member has, I think, demonstrated to the satisfaction of himself and the whole House that his amendment has nothing to do with Ports or Trusts or Tuticorin. It is therefore only necessary to enquire whether it serves any purpose at all.

"The purpose which, I take it, he claims that it serves is this: he has been hurt in his feelings; he wants to pass that hurt on to somebody else; he does not mind whom, and he hopes by this amendment to do so.

"I say nothing about the morality or even the wisdom of such a proceeding. I will simply consider whether, assuming his purpose to be what it is not, a wise and moral one, he has any chance of effecting it.

"The first essential to that end is that it became known. Now, although we have, at the instance of hon. Members, reduced the price of the proceedings of the Council far below cost, they have not yet become really popular literature. In fact I believe one can count the subscribers on one's fingers. One cannot, therefore, hope that an obscure section in an obscure Bill will be widely circulated through this means. What then is to be done? How are we to notify to the millions of Australia, Canada and the West Indies, to Borneo, Sarawak and Weihaiwei, to Tristan da Cunha, Papua and Saskatchewan, and to the 70 inhabitants of Pitcairn Island, that no one born there and born white may hereafter for ever aspire to become a member of that august body, the Tuticorin Port Trust—save with the sanction of the Local Government? Are we to broadcast it, or must we ask the Colonies to notify it themselves in their gazettes? Or shall we apply for the assistance of the genial Mr. Punch? Macaulay once drew a picture of a New Zealander sitting on London Bridge sketching the ruins of Saint Paul's. Could we induce Mr. Punch to duplicate this with a cartoon of a New Zealander sitting on the bridge we are building over the Uppar Odai looking longingly at the portals of the harbour buildings from which the hon. Gentleman had excluded him?

"And even if we did, would it excite melancholy or even wrath among the readers? Let us try to apply a similar instance to ourselves. Suppose that New Zealand disliked the quarantine laws of Australia and therefore issued a decree that no member of the Empire, including India, should be a member of the Waimakarera Drainage Board. Would agitators furiously rage or the people imagine a vain thing? Would orators orate and deputations depute? I think not. I fear that if New Zealand's action was noticed at all, the only person who would be likely to pay the slightest attention to it would be Mr. Doodle, and that the only paper that would notice it would be that known as Mr. Doodle's Weekly."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry I cannot follow the jocular vein in which the hon. the Leader of the House seems to view the whole question. I do not want to introduce any racial bias into the

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discussion, but I cannot help feeling this, Sir, that if in his place an Indian has been sitting as the hon. the Leader of the House, I am sure he would not have indulged in this cheap joke on the question of the dignity and honour of this nation which has been brought up before this House in a mild form and the only way in which we can bring it. I ask the hon. the Leader of the House whether, if Englishmen had been treated in Germany or in France, as Indians are treated in these Colonies, any English Prime Minister would dare to get up in the House. of Commons and oppose an amendment like this, in this cheap jocular vein in which the hon. the Leader of the House has spoken on this motion. I must protest against the way in which these discussions are being reduced to the level of mere exchange of jokes on one side or the other. My hon. Friend has raised a very important matter. We feel that we Indians are being treated as helots and as slaves in His Majesty's British Colonies. This is one occasion when the matter has come before us. When we are going to disqualify X, Y or Z, we ask that to the extent to which we have the power to do so, this Council as representing the wishes and the opinions, and, may I add, the sentiments of thousands of people, may add an amendment saying that those who treat us badly shall be treated as they treat us."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I am afraid I must interrupt the hon. Member. It is now 4 o'clock and we have to begin the debate on the Adjournment motion. The hon. Member will be at liberty to resume his speech to-morrow morning."

VII. MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE—*cont.*

The motion of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar for adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance was then taken up.

4 p.m.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Before we begin the debate on the motion before the House, I have to draw the attention of hon. Members to the Standing Order on the subject, namely, Standing Order 23, which says:

'The debate on a motion to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, if not earlier concluded, shall automatically terminate at 6-30 p.m., and thereafter no question can be put.'

" The second clause of the same Standing Order says:—

'No speech during the debate shall exceed 15 minutes in duration.'

" I have not so far imposed any time limit. But hereafter, during this debate, the time limit will be enforced, because this is a motion on which many hon. Members of the House may desire to speak.

" Clause 2 of Standing Order 23 goes on to say:

'Provided that it shall be within the discretion of the President to allow the Mover and the Government Member answering him to exceed the said limit of time.'

" I shall allow the Mover to exceed the time limit once and so also the Government Member answering him."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR then made the following motion:—

" *I beg to move the adjournment of the business of the House to consider a definite matter of public importance, viz., the issue of a Whip to support the Government by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in connexion with the 'No-confidence' motion of Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.*"

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that he did apply for the appointments and that at his own instance. All the same I did not like to publish the letters. But a question has been now asked as to whether I had the letters. Am I to say 'no' when I have them? That, in fact, is the reason why I had to admit that I had the letters. Is it political honesty to deny a fact? Can I say I have no letters when I have them? Part of the question was to obtain information as to whether the hon. Member asked for this appointment or that appointment and I had to admit that he applied for certain appointments."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether the proceedings should not automatically terminate now, it being half past six."

The hon. the President :—" We have not reached 6-30 yet. I would allow now the hon. the Raja of Panagal to go on."

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" All the questions raised by the Opposition have been answered on this side, and it is hardly necessary for me to detain the House any longer. I am quite prepared to bow to the technical requirement of time-limit."

As the clock struck 6–30 at this stage, the debate terminated.

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

Appendix III.

[Vide item 'XI. Communications to the Council', page 53 supra.]

Notification No. 108, dated 18th December 1923, published in the "Fort St. George Gazette".

Under section 72-C, sub-section (1) of the Government of India Act, His Excellency the Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George is pleased hereby to appoint M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur Lewis Dominic Swamikannu Pillai Avargal, I.S.O., to be President of his Legislative Council for the remainder of the period referred to in section 72-C of the Government of India Act and with effect from the date of resignation of the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur Sir Perungavur Rajagopala Achariyar Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., of his appointment as President of the Madras Legislative Council.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Govt., Law (Legislative) Dept.

[5th February 1924

Notification No. 109, *dated* 18*th December* 1923, *published in the " Fort St. George Gazette ".*

In exercise of the powers conferred by rule 5 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, His Excellency the Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George has been pleased to appoint M.R.Ry. Rasipur Varatha Krishna Ayyar Avargal, B.A., M.L., to be Secretary to his Legislative Council.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Govt., Law (Legislative) Dept.

Notification No. 4, *dated* 17*th January* 1924, *published in the " Fort St. George Gazette ".*

M.R.Ry. Colattur Satagopa Achariyar Avargal, B.A., Superintendent, Office of the Secretary to the Legislative Council, to be Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Council.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Govt., Law (Legislative) Dept.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item ' XI. Communications to the Council ', page 54 supra.]

(1)

Proceedings of the Seventh meeting of the Finance Committee, 1923-24, *dated* 6*th December* 1923.

PRESENT:

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (Chairman).
C. NICHOLSON, Esq.
Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU, *Kt.*
,, T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu.
M.R.Ry. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal.
,, A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal.
JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur.
Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN.
R. W. DAVIES, Esq., I.C.S.

The first item taken up for consideration was the demands for additional expenditure.

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(1) The following demands were recommended :—

	RS.
(*a*) Special staff for the Metur and Sangameswaram projects.	35,000
(*b*) Electric installation in the Alipuram jail ..	30,000
(*c*) Provision of Rs. 72,000 for the maintenance of trunk roads.	72,000
(*d*) Additional staff and equipment, Rayapuram Hospital.	11,000

The above expenditure may be met by reappropriation.

(2) Additional Sessions Judge, Coimbatore .. Rs. 3,348.

The Committee desired to be supplied with figures with regard to the criminal work as well as the figures with regard to civil work.

2. The Committee were informed that it was proposed to place Mr. Moir on special duty to revise the system of educational finance with particular reference to primary education, and expressed their approval of the proposal.

3. Industries Department, Part II schemes, 1924–25--

	RS.
(1) Building grant to St. Joseph's Industrial School, Trichinopoly, for the construction of a hostel.	21,870

The Committee recommended that a half grant be made and that the scheme be placed in class III.

	RS.
(2) Extension to the Danish Mission Industrial School, Panruti.	10,200

The Committee recommended that a sum of Rs. 3,600 be granted as a contribution towards the complete work.

They would class the scheme in class II.

() District Engineering staff—

	RS.
(*a*) Purchase of fresh hand-boring plant	82,300
(*b*) Purchase of power-drills	72,000

Out of these sums it is proposed to spend Rs. 51,360 under (*a*) and Rs. 48,000 under (*b*) in 1924–25. At the same time it is proposed to raise the fees levied for boring and for the erection of pumping plant.

The Committee recommended the scheme for acceptance and placed it in class II.

(4) Pallapalaiyam sugar factory—

	RS.
(*a*) Purchase of a new engine	9,050
(*b*) Construction of additional furnaces ..	3,300
(*c*) Additional recurring expenditure	2,650
Total ..	15,000

The Committee recommended the scheme for acceptance in class III.

4. *32. Medical, Part II schemes.*—The following schemes were considered and classified :—

	RS.
(1) Intensive Educational Campaign on Hookworm.	23,500

Of this sum half, i.e., Rs. 11,750 to be met from Provincial Funds.

The Committee did not recommend the scheme for acceptance. They placed it in class IV.

	RS.
(2) Grants for private hospital buildings	36,400

The Committee were informed that the department is preparing a revised note. The consideration of the scheme was therefore postponed.

(3) Allowances to X-ray staff.

The Committee recommended that a fixed allowance of Rs. 150 be granted to Civil Assistant Surgeons employed on X-ray work and an allowance of Rs. 50 to Sub-Assistant Surgeons so employed. They also recommended that these allowances should be paid to officers under training and that no Presidency allowance should be granted to officers drawing these allowances.

The scheme was placed in class I.

(4) Scholarship to a Lady Doctor for study in England—

	RS.
The proposal is that one Lady Doctor should be sent to England in 1924-25 and should hold a scholarship for two years	11,950
Cost in 1924-25	3,400

The Committee recommended the proposal for acceptance but would fix the scholarship at £300 a year and in addition would recommend that a second-class return passage be provided.

They would class the scheme in class II.

(5) Renewal of ward furniture, General Hospital, Madras, Rs. 47,500.

The Committee recommended the scheme and placed it in class II.

(6) Opening of a dispensary at Paderu—

	RS.
Initial expenditure	4,000
Recurring expenditure	3,000

The Committee did not consider that this work is urgent and would place it in class III.

	RS.
(7) Medical school, Coimbatore, special equipment for the Chemistry and Physiology departments ..	5,625

The Committee recommended the scheme and placed it in class I.

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5. *Medical Buildings, Part II schemes, for* 1924-25.—The following schemes were placed before the Committee :—

(1) Mental Hospital, Madras—

	Total cost.	Contribution for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
(*a*) Twenty single rooms for males.	23,000	15,000
(*b*) New dispensary and operation theatre.	11,350	11,350
(*c*) Improvements to the water-supply.	11,775	11,775
(*d*) Improvements to the kitchen.	7,700	7,700
Total ..	53,825	45,825

The Committee would place item (*a*) in class II and items (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) in class III.

(2) Chittoor Hospital—Quarters for the Lady Apothecary :—

Total cost.	Contribution for 1924–25.
RS.	RS.
6,170	6,170

The Committee recommended the scheme and placed it in class III.

(3) Coimbatore Hospital—Extension of site—Purchase of 7·23 acres at a cost of Rs. 25,222.

The Committee desired to be informed what is the present area of the hospital compound and whether room cannot be found in it for part at least of the extensions.

(4) Vellore hospital—Out-patient dispensary—Rs. 18,500.

The Committee recommended the scheme for acceptance and placed it in class II.

6. *Civil Budget estimate—Pay of establishments.*—The Committee were informed that it is proposed to omit the entries against the detailed heads under the primary units in column 5 of the Civil Budget estimate and to show only the total cost against each primary unit. The Committee desired that a decision should be postponed until their next meeting.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
7th December 1923.

C. G. TODHUNTER.

[5th February 1924

(2)

Proceedings of the Eighth meeting of the Finance Committee, 1923–24, *held on Monday, the 17th December* 1923, *at* 2–30 *p.m.*

PRESENT:

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (Chairman).
Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU, *Kt.*
,, T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu.
JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur.
Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN.
M.R.Ry. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal.
,, A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal.
C. NICHOLSON, Esq.
R. W. DAVIES, Esq., I.C.S.
Mr. P. HAWKINS, M.I.C.E., was also present.

The Committee took into consideration Part II schemes for 1924–25. The schemes under head 55—Construction of Irrigation Works—and head 15—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works financed from ordinary revenues—were first considered.

I. 55—*Irrigation Works*—

(*a*) *Classified by the Committee as class I*—

(1) Installation of shutters in the Kistna anicut—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	4,95,300
Grant required for 1924–25	3,81,000

(2) Extending the South Channel, Divi Pumping System—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	14,478
Government share	8,324
For 1924–25	8,324

(*b*) *Classified by the Committee as class II*—

(1) Remodelling Tapeswaram South Side Channel—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	88,900
Grant required for 1924–25	5,080

(2) Road dam at Vellar Rajan Vaikal, Shatiatope Anicut System—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	29,210
Grant required for 1924–25	3,810

(3) Converting Pulivalam dam across the Kattar into a regulator—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	21,780
Grant required for 1924–25	15,240

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(4) Minor works costing less than Rs. 10,000 each—Productive—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	68,415
Grant required for 1924–25	68,415

(5) Minor works costing less than Rs. 10,000 each—Unproductive—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	16,673
Grant required for 1924–25	16,673

(6) Subsidiary drains to Motur left side drain—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	24,003
Grant required for 1924–25	12,000

(c) *The Committee classified the following as class III schemes* :—

(1) Automatic shutters to the Goomsur Anicut—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	26,289
Grant required for 1924–25	26,289

(2) Improvements to the Jambu Cauvery—

	RS.
Amount of estimate	50,800
Grant required for 1924–25	25,400

The works specified under (a), (b) and (c), being works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept, should be met from loans.

(d) *Gōdāvari Delta system—Head Works division—*

	Amount of estimate.	Grant for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
IX. Improvements to the Vizeswaram under-sluices.	1,46,050	63,500
X. Improvements to the Bobberlanka under-sluices.	1,27,000	38,100

The estimates for these works have not been sanctioned, and the Chief Engineer has yet to make his inspection. The Committee were therefore unable to take them into consideration.

(e) *Improvements to the Red Hills Tank—*

	RS.
Amount of estimate	1,37,414
Grant required for 1924–25	26,670

The question of the contribution by the Madras Corporation is under correspondence. The scheme could not therefore be considered.

(f) *Construction of a reservoir across the Bolla Vagu at Thippayapalem, Markapur taluk—*

As this is an unproductive work, with a prospective return of only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, the Committee recommended that the cost thereof should be met by a sinking fund loan, the repayment of which should be spread over a period of thirty years.

[5th February 1924

They would place it in class III.

II. 15.—*Works financed from ordinary revenues*—

(*a*) *Raising and strengthening left flood bank of the Cauvery*—

	RS.
Amount of estimate inclusive of percentage charges.	55,658
Grant required for 1924-25	25,400

The Committee classed this in class I, but recommended that, as the work forms part of the Cauvery Delta system, it should be transferred to capital account and the cost of the improvement met by loan.

(*b*) *Diverting the Gokivadagedda*—

	RS.
Probable amount of estimate inclusive of percentage charges	27,500
Grant required for 1924–25	12,000

This work may be classed in class II, the sum of Rs. 12,000 being provided, if funds are available, in 1924–25.

(*c*) *Improvements to the Musiri Nattu Vaikkal*—

	RS.
Probable amount of estimate inclusive of percentage charges.	53,700
Grant required for 1924-25	25,400

In the absence of finally sanctioned estimates the Committee are unable to recommend that the scheme be included in the budget in 1924–25.

2. The Part II schemes put forward by the Department of Agriculture were next considered.

(*a*) *The following schemes were placed in class II*:—

	RS.
(1) Opening of demonstration plots in North Arcot, South Arcot, Chittoor and Chingleput—Annual cost	3,000
(2) Appointment of a store-keeper at Samalkota on a salary of Rs. 35 to 60.	
(3) Popularisation of agricultural implements ..	1,660

(*b*) *The following schemes were placed in class III*:—

(1) Additional staff—Millets specialist—

	RS.
Recurring cost	3,980
Cost in 1924–25	2,805

(2) Additional staff (4 assistants and 5 plant collectors) for cotton improvement work—

	RS.
Cost in 1924–25 (11 months)	4,840

(3) Two additional plant collectors at Aduthurai station—

	RS.
Cost in 1924-25 (11 months)	550

Notification No. 109, *dated* 18*th December* 1923, *published in the "Fort St. George Gazette".*

In exercise of the powers conferred by rule 5 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, His Excellency the Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George has been pleased to appoint M.R.Ry. Rasipur Varatha Krishna Ayyar Avargal, B.A., M.L., to be Secretary to his Legislative Council.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Govt., Law (Legislative) Dept.

Notification No. 4, *dated* 17*th January* 1924, *published in the "Fort St. George Gazette".*

M.R.Ry. Colattur Satagopa Achariyar Avargal, B.A., Superintendent, Office of the Secretary to the Legislative Council, to be Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Council.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Govt., Law (Legislative) Dept.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item 'XI. Communications to the Council', page 54 supra.]

(1)

Proceedings of the Seventh meeting of the Finance Committee, 1923–24, *dated* 6*th December* 1923.

PRESENT:

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (Chairman).
C. NICHOLSON, Esq.
Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU, *Kt.*
,, T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu.
M.R.Ry. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal.
,, A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal.
JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur.
Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN.
R. W. DAVIES, Esq., I.C.S.

The first item taken up for consideration was the demands for additional expenditure.

[5th February 1924

4. *Co-operative Credit—Part II schemes—*

(1) Additional staff for Malabar District—

Cost in 1924-25—

	RS.
Pay of one Chief Inspector on Rs. 80 for 11 months 11 × 80.	880
Pay of one Inspector for 11 months 11 × 40.	440
Total ..	1,320

Travelling allowance for the above—

	RS.
Chief Inspector	360
Inspector	300
Total ..	1,980

(2) Appointment of 16 Additional Honorary Assistant Registrars—

Estimated cost in 1924-25—

	RS.
Travelling allowance for these gentlemen from 1st July 1924.	4,320
Pay and travelling allowance for 16 peons under them.	2,688
Total ..	7,008

The above two schemes are placed in Class III.

(3) Appointment of peons for Honorary Assistant Registrars outside Madras City—

Total number of peons 77—

Annual cost —

	RS.
Pay	10,164
Travelling allowance	7,400
Total ..	17,564

The scheme is placed in Class II.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
18*th December* 1923.

C. G. TODHUNTER

(3)

Proceedings of the Ninth meeting of the Finance Committee held on Tuesday, the 18th December 1923.

PRESENT:

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (Chairman).
Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU, *Kt.*
,, T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu.
JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur.
Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN.
M.R.Ry. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal.
,, A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal.
C. NICHOLSON, Esq.
R. W. DAVIES, Esq., I.C.S.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The scheme for a paddy-breeding station in the Kistna delta, consideration of which was postponed so that the Director of Agriculture might be present, had, owing to the absence of the Director from Madras, again to be postponed.

3. The consideration of part II schemes was resumed, the first department taken up being the Land Revenue Department, which had only two schemes for presentation. They are—

(1) Purchase of a rotary off-set machine for the Survey office at a cost of £2,012 12 0

Annual maintenance charges are estimated at .. £107 10 0 per annum.

The Committee recommended the purchase of the machine and placed the scheme in class I.

(2) Restoration of Land Records Tahsildars, at an annual estimated cost of 2·17 lakhs of rupees.

As the proposal involves the restoration of expenditure which was cut out by the Legislative Council, the Committee were unable to accept the proposal on the basis of the information supplied in the Revenue Department's note and requested that the Commissioner of Survey and Settlement should attend the Committee to explain the proposition more fully.

4. Part II schemes under head 22. General Administration were next taken up.

	RS.
(1) *Purchase of books for the Secretariat Library* ..	1,500
The scheme was placed in class II.	
(2) *Repairs to the "Regal" Van*	1,000
The scheme was placed in class I.	

RS.

(3) *Grant of jamabandi allowance to karnams and menials in proprietary villages in which the Government revenue exceeds Rs.* 300.

Annual cost 17,500

The scheme was placed in class II.

(4) *Installation of standard balances and weights at Bezwada, Madras and Trichinopoly.*

Cost (non-recurring) 8,600

The scheme was placed in class III.

(5) (*a*) *Increase of pay of the head clerk of the Registrar-General of Panchayats.*

The proposal was not recommended for acceptance and was placed in class IV.

(*b*) *Sanction of an increment of Rs.* 4 *to the third clerk and of Re.* 1 *to the attender in the above office.*

The proposal was recommended for acceptance and placed in class I.

5. *Head* 24—*Administration of Justice—Part II Schemes*—

(1) *Opening of an additional District Munsif's Court to dispose of the arrears in the Poonamallee and Tiruvellore courts*—

Cost in 1924–25 Rs. 5,805

The Committee desired to be informed whether the arrears could not be disposed of by utilising the court recently established at Madurantakam to relieve the Tiruvellore and Poonamallee courts.

(2) *Opening of an additional District Munsif's Court in South Kanara*—

Estimated cost for 1924–25 (9 months) .. Rs. 6,414

The scheme was recommended and was placed in class I.

(3) *Additional District Munsif's Court at Gudivada to relieve the District Munsif's Courts at Avanigadda and Masulipatam*—

Estimated cost for 1924–25 (8 months) .. Rs. 5,806

The Committee did not consider that the location at Gudivada of a court to relieve Avanigadda and Masulipatam was desirable. They therefore requested to be informed whether the court could not be used to relieve the congested courts by being stationed in the area of congestion instead of at Gudivada.

6. *Head* 41—*Civil Works—Land Revenue*—

(1) *Construction of a Divisional office at Narsapur*—

Estimate Rs. 42,500

The Committee desired to be informed what would be the cost of repairing and improving the existing building.

5th February 1924]

(2) *Construction of a Deputy Tahsildar's office, Narasannapeta*—
Estimate Rs. 33,700

The scheme was placed in class III.

(3) *Construction of quarters for the Deputy Tahsildar of Kudala and his staff*—

		RS.
Estimate		33,000
Demand for 1924–25		10,000

The scheme was placed in class II.

7. *Head* 41—*Civil Works—Agricultural Department*—

(1) *Construction of quarters at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore*—

		RS.
(i) Three "D" type quarters at Rs 1,900 each	..	5,700
(ii) Thirty "F" type quarters at Rs. 600 each	..	18,000
(iii) Twenty-two "E" type quarters at Rs. 1,150 each.		25,300
	Total ..	49,000

The proposal was placed in class III.

(2) *Quarters for the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Madura*—
Rs. 28,350

The scheme was not recommended for acceptance and was placed in class IV.

(3) *Extension of Agricultural College hostel* .. Rs. 30,500

The scheme was placed in class III.

8. 41—*Civil Works—Veterinary Department*—

(1) Veterinary College—

		RS.
(*a*) Operation shed extension		2,400
(*b*) Dissecting room		10,248
(*c*) Dressing shed		12,080

The extension of the operation shed was recommended as a class III work. Items (*b*) and (*c*) were not recommended and were placed in class IV.

		RS.
(2) Veterinary dispensary, Adoni		17,000
Veterinary dispensary, Nandyal		14,500

The scheme was placed in class III.

9. 41—*Civil Works—Registration Department*—

		RS.
(1) *Office and quarters for Sub-Registrar and clerks, Buguda.*		16,800
(2) *Sub-registry office, Valikandapuram*		13,600

The proposals were placed in class III.

10. *Civil Works—Administration of Justice*—

	RS
(1) *Court-house for the District Munsif, Turayur* ..	65,000
Demand for 1924-25	10,000
(2) *Court-house for the District Munsif, Gooty* ..	52,000
Demand for 1924-25	10,000

These two schemes were placed in class II. Attention was called to the small proportion of the total cost which it is proposed to meet in 1924-25. It appeared to the Committee that, if the works, which are classed as extremely urgent, are taken in hand in 1924-25, a much greater proportion of the construction than that proposed should be carried through.

(3) *Court-house for the District, Sub and Munsif's Courts at Vizagapatam.*—The Committee desired to call attention to the low price which has been demanded for the site and building of the existing court in Vizagapatam, viz., Rs. 50,000. They considered that there is no justification for constructing a new court-house at a cost of three and half lakhs of rupees when Government court-houses are already in existence in Vizagapatam. They would therefore place the scheme in class IV.

(4) *Court of Small Causes, Madras*—

	RS.
Estimated cost	5·56 lakhs.
Demand for 1924-25	10,000

The Committee suggested that a further enquiry be made into the possibility of so re-distributing the space in the existing building as to secure a reduction in the cost of the extension.

	RS.
(5) *Iron record racks in the High Court* ..	13,400

The scheme was placed in class II—

(6) *Construction of a bungalow for the* District Judge, Trichinopoly.	48,770

The Committee were not satisfied as to the necessity for constructing a new bungalow at so high a cost. They therefore placed the scheme in class IV.

11. 32. *Medical—Grants to private hospitals for medical buildings.*—The Committee recommended that a sum of Rs. 23,876, equivalent to the first six schemes on the priority list, be entered in part I of the budget under this head.

They further recommended that a sum of Rs. 15,523, equivalent to the cost of schemes 7 to 12 on the priority list, be classified in class II of part II of the budget. The 13th item on the list was placed in class III.

12. The consideration of the Accountant-General's note on the Civil Budget Estimate was deferred till the next meeting.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
20th December 1923.

C. G. TODHUNTER.

(4)

Proceedings of the Tenth meeting of the Finance Committee, 1923–24, *dated 4th January* 1924.

PRESENT:

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (Chairman).
M.R.Ry. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal, M.L.C.
Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu, M.L.C.
Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN, M.L.C.
Janab MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur, M.L.C.
C. NICHOLSON, Esq., M.L.C.
R. W. DAVIES, Esq., I.C.S.

The Accountant-General, Mr. A. A. L. Parsons, I.C.S., was also present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

2. *Civil Budget Estimates—Pay of Establishments—Proposal to omit the entries against the detailed heads under the primary units—*

The Committee were of opinion that the proposal of the Accountant-General should be accepted so far as it related to permanent sanctioned establishments. They considered that the cost of temporary establishments should be entered separately and that detailed schedules of the temporary establishments should form part of the budget. The entries should continue to be made against all detailed heads against which the figures are at present entered in the accounts columns of the estimates.

PART II SCHEMES.

3. I. 24—*Administration of Justice—*

(1) Opening of a Temporary Sub-Court at Tellicherry, with effect from 1st June 1924.

	RS.
Cost in 1924-25	8,785

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

(2) Additional establishment of two upper division and two lower division clerks for the Original Side of the High Court.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	3,824	2,520

The proposal was placed in class II.

II. 25—*Jails—*

(1) Provision of recreation rooms for jail staffs in Central and District Jails.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	6,000	6,000

[library stamp]

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

(2) Appointment of literate officers as gate-keepers.

	RS.
Estimated additional annual cost	793

The proposal was placed in class II.

(3) Supply of uniforms to sub-jail warder guards in Kurnool and Coimbatore districts.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	3,850	3,850

The scheme was placed by the Committee in class II.

III. 26—*Police*—

Construction of a staff boat for the Superintendent of Police, Kistna.

	Estmated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	9,000	9,000

The Committee placed the scheme in class II.

IV. 31—*Education*—

(1) Medical supervision of the hostel attached to the Government Training School for Women, Tanjore.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	300	300

The proposal was placed in class I.

(2) The following schemes were placed by the Committee in class II :—

(i) Government Mappilla Lower Elementary Training School for Masters, Malappuram—Raising the standard to the status of a higher elementary training school.

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924–25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
7,068	1,000	4,336	1,000

(ii) Government Muhammadan Secondary School, Guntur—Opening of VI Form.

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924–25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1,464	1,000	880	1,000

5th February 1924]

The proposal to appoint a clerk and a peon was not recommended. The proposal to open Form VI with a trained graduate teacher on Rs. 75 a month and to provide Rs. 1,000 for equipment was recommended as a class II scheme.

(iii) Additional teacher for the Reformatory School, Chingleput.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	555	385

(iv) Opening of six additional elementary schools for fisher children.

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924–25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
3,636	1,464	3,336	1,464

The Committee desired that an explanation should be furnished with regard to the necessity for a duty allowance to Headmasters.

(v) Queen Mary's College—additional staff—Science Department—one Demonstrator and one Mechanic.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,434	720

(vi) Bifurcation of the Kistna district for educational purposes—Appointment of two District Educational Officers.

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924–25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS	RS.
12,715	500	8,482	500

(vii) Scholarships tenable in higher elementary schools for girls—Increase in number from 36 to 50.

(viii) Scholarships—Special for Mappillas, Labbais and certain other classes of the Muhammadan community—Increase in number from 16 to 25.

(3) The following schemes were placed in class III :—

(*a*) Conversion of the Model School attached to the Government Training School for Women, Tanjore, into a middle school.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,644	1,644
Non-recurring	700	700

(*b*) Opening of higher standards in the Model School attached to the Government Training school, Dindigul.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,710	315
Non-recurring	2,550	390

(c) Opening of additional lower elementary sections in the Government Training schools at Berhampore and Chicacole.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	9,000	6,000
Non-recurring	570	570

(d) Opening of Form V in the Government Middle school for girls—Vellore.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	4,880	1,360
Non-recurring	1,500	750

(e) Opening of Form VI in the Government Girls' Secondary school at Salem.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,032	640

(f) Arts College, Rajahmundry—Appointment of a tutor in English.

Cost per annum Rs. 1,125.

(g) Ceded Districts College, Anantapur—Temporary tutor in physics—Permanent retention and conversion into assistant lecturer in the Subordinate Educational Service.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,125	250

(h) Agency—Education—Government Elementary schools—Surangodo and R. Udayagiri—Opening of higher standards.

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,500	1,100

(i) Institution of two scholarships to England for Indian women.

The proposal was placed in class III. A scholarship for £300 without a war bonus of £45 was considered to be ample.

(j) Government College, Mangalore—English assistant—Outside any cadre—Appointment to Subordinate Educational Service.

Cost Rs. 750 per annum.

(k) Scholarships tenable in Higher Elementary schools—Increase in number from 24 to 80.

(4) The Committee placed the following schemes in class IV :—

(i) Arts College, Rajahmundry—Transfer of the lecturership in chemistry from the Subordinate Educational Service cadre to the Madras Educational Service cadre.

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Cost per annum Rs. 4,095.

(ii) Deputation of a Madras Educational Service officer to England to study the educational systems of England.

(iii) Grant for the purchase of a building for the Indian Students' Union and hostel, London :—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	15,000	15,000

V. 41. *Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers—Land Revenue Department*—

Construction of a Tahsildar's office at Ramnad—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	89,500	20,000

The proposal was placed in class III.

VI. 41. *Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers—General Administration*—

Secretariat buildings—Alterations to the second floor and lavatories on the open terrace—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	12,500	12,000

The Committee placed the scheme in class II.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th January 1924.

C. G. TODHUNTER.

(5)

Proceedings of the Eleventh meeting of the Finance Committee, 1923-24, *dated 5th January* 1924.

PRESENT:

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (Chairman).

M.R.Ry. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal, M.L.C.

" A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal, M.L.C.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu, M.L.C.

JANAB MUHAMMAD YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur, M.L.C.

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN, M.L.C.

R. W. DAVIES, Esq., I.C.S.

Mr. M. R. KHAREGAT, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, was also present.

Appointment of a special officer to examine the re-allocation of police stations in the six southern districts.

[5th February 1924

The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

	RS.
Total cost for four months	7,660

2. *1.* 41. *Civil Works—Jail buildings*—

(*a*) Construction of two blocks of 40 cells in Coimbatore Central Jail—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	72,400	72,400

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

In view of the fact that the Inspector-General states that he can secure a saving of Rs. 5,000 by the use of convict labour the sanctioned cost of the estimate may be reduced from Rs. 72,400 to Rs. 67,400.

(*b*) District Jail—Palamcottah—Construction of an extra-mural ward of six cells for female prisoners—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	18,740	8,000

The Committee placed the scheme in class III. They recommended that the cost of the work should be reduced by the employment of convict labour.

(*c*) District Jail—Palamcottah—Improvements to cell-doors and locking arrangements—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	9,700	9,700

The scheme was placed in class II. The estimate for Rs. 9,700 may, in view of the fact that the Inspector-General anticipates a saving by the use of jail manufactures, be reduced to Rs. 9,000.

(*d*) Sub-Jail, Koraput—Construction of a main gate and an office—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	17,060	17,060

The Committee placed the scheme in class II.

(*e*) Electrification of Central Jail—Vellore—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	34,660	11,420

The scheme was placed in class III.

(*f*) Electrification of the Borstal Institution, Tanjore—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	19,250	15,000

The scheme was placed in class III.

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II 41. *Civil Works—Education—*

(1) Extensions to the buildings of the Government College, Mangalore—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	29,000	15,000

The consideration of the scheme was postponed until the estimates are ready.

(2) Construction of a building for the Government Training School for masters at Cuddalore—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	1,33,000	50,000

The Committee considered that it was sufficient to provide for the cost of acquisition, viz., Rs. 22,000 in 1924-25 and placed that in class II.

(3) Acquisition of a site and construction of a building for the Government Higher Elementary Training School for Masters, Chingleput—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	49,000	10,000

The sum sufficient to cover the cost of acquisition is Rs. 2,550. The Committee considered that it would be sufficient to provide in 1924-25 a sum of Rs. 2,550 for the cost of the acquisition of the site. They placed that in Class II.

(4) Teachers' College, Saidapet—Water-supply scheme—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	27,500	4,600

The Committee placed the scheme in class II.

(5) Government Muhammadan Secondary School, Vellore—Construction of a building—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	43,000	25,000

The scheme was placed in Class III.

(6) Construction of Science Block in the Queen Mary's College—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	3,55,000	1,00,000

The Committee recommended that the scheme should be deferred pending the formulation of the scheme for a general University Laboratory. A separate scheme may be prepared for providing laboratory accommodation in the Queen Mary's College for the Intermediate classes of the College.

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III. 41. *Civil Works—Medical Buildings*—

Land acquisition—Coimbatore Medical School and Hospital—Purchase of 7·23 acres at a cost of Rs. 25,222.

The scheme was placed in class I.

IV. 41. *Civil Works—Registration Buildings*—

Construction of a District Registrar's office at Masulipatam—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	65,000	10,000

The Committee were informed that the office of the Salt Assistant Commissioner would probably be vacated by the Forest Department. They recommended that the possibility of using the Salt Assistant Commissioner's office should be considered.

V. 41. *Civil Works—Industries—Buildings*—

(1) Kerala Soap Institute—Additional works—

	RS.
(*a*) Repairs to the existing road within the premises of the Institute	200
(*b*) Levelling site	1,300
(*c*) Embankment	4,200
(*d*) Compound wall	8,500
(*e*) Wrought iron gate	900
(*f*) Repairs to old buildings	750
(*g*) Unforeseen	1,350
Total ..	17,200

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	17,200	15,850

Items (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*f*) were placed in class I and items (*d*) and (*e*) in class III.

(2) Industrial Engineer's Workshops—Expenditure on certain necessary works—

	RS.
(i) Engine and trolly shed and tiffin sheds ..	10,000
(ii) Compound wall	5,000
(iii) Fencing	2,000
(iv) Gates	940
(v) Earth filling	1,000
(vi) Unforeseen	560
Total ..	19,500

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	18,940	18,940

The Committee placed items (i) to (v) in class II.

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VI. 41. *Civil Works—Agency works*—

(*a*) Bridge works—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Nowrangapur—Central Provinces road—		
(1) Bridge over Porligedda	82,100	25,000
(2) Do. Haradipattigedda ..	45,210	25,000
Gōdāvari road—		
(3) Bridge over Turabakavagu ..	21,800	5,000
(4) Do. Sitavagu	10,400	5,000
(5) Do. Kondapuramvagu ..	10,480	4,000

The Committee recommended that items (1) and (2) should be postponed. Items (3), (4) and (5) were placed in class III.

(*b*) Agency—Roads—Bridge—Anantagiri-Jeypore road—Construction of a bridge over the Kolab river—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	3,56,800	30,000

The scheme was placed in class III.

(*c*) Widening the Itikavalasa-Jeypore road—Koraput Agency—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	3,42,000	10,000

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

VII. 41. *Civil Works—Public Works Department Buildings*—

Construction of a rest-house in Mangalore—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	19,200	10,000

The scheme was placed in class III.

3. 8. *Forest*—

Fire protection of the sholas on the Kundahs in the Nilgiris—

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924-25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
900	4,000	700	4,000

The proposal was placed in class II.

4. 33. *Public Health*—

(i) Formation of additional ranges of Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination in the Agency Division—

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924-25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
22,316	1,400	19,292	1,400

The note of the department has not supplied information as to the necessity for 20 vaccinators. It was requested that an explanation should be furnished.

(ii) Creation of a leave reserve of district health officers—

	Estimated cost	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	5,500	5,500

The scheme was placed in class I.

(iii) Appointment of a travelling inspectorate of municipal water-supplies—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	20,000	20,000

The scheme was placed in class IV.

(iv) Mechanical Engineer for the inspection and supervision of municipal water-works—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	9,881	9,060

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

5. 35. *Industries*—

(i) St. Francis Xavier's Industrial School, Tanjore—Building grant—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	78,024	50,000

The scheme was placed in class III.

(ii) Extension to the S.P.G. Art Industrial School, Nazareth—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924-25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	1,500	1,500

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

(iii) Pasumalai Trades school—Extension to—Building grant.

The particulars of extensions to the buildings are—

		RS.
(1)	Addition to main building	6,628
(2)	Construction of a blacksmithy shed	6,773
(3)	Do. of a carpentry shed	5,891
(4)	Do. of an engine room	2,150
(5)	Do. of the east terrace	1,600
(6)	Do. of latrines	316
	Total ..	23,358

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	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	11,679	4,462

Items (2) and (4) were classed as class II schemes.

(iv) Development of the lace and embroidery industry—

Estimated cost.		Provision for 1924–25.	
Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
11,000	15,000	9,895	15,000

The scheme was placed in class II.

(v) Hilsa hatching operations in the Gōdāvari and Kistna rivers—

	Estimated cost.	Provision for 1924–25.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	500	500

The proposal was placed in class IV.

6. Loans and Advances—Class V. Miscellaneous Loans—Organization—Cattle Insurance Societies.

The Committee placed the scheme in class III.

7. The appointment of a Committee to consider the question of standardization of jewellers' weights.

At the instance of the Development department, which had promised to remit to the proposed Committee as its main object of enquiry the question whether compulsion is practicable, the Committee reconsidered their recommendation of the 3rd December and classed the scheme in class III. The Development department has accepted a reduction in the estimate of cost from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 300.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
7th January 1924.

C. G. TODHUNTER.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide item 'IX. Communications to the Council', page 54 supra.]

G.O. No. 1102, Finance, dated 21st December 1923.

READ—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 400, *Finance, dated* 1st *May* 1922.

ABSTRACT.—Committees—Public Accounts and Finance—Constitution of—1922–23.

Order—No. 1102, *Finance, dated* 21*st December* 1923.

The Public Accounts Committee of the Legislative Council for the year 1923–24 will be constituted as follows:—

Nominated by His Excellency the Governor.

(1) Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. (*Chairman*).
(2) R. W. Davies, Esq., I.C.S., M.L.C.
(3) A. J. Leech, Esq., M.L.C.

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Elected by the non-official members of the Council.

(4) M.R.Ry. S. Arpudaswami Udayar Avargal, M.L.C.
(5) The Raja of Ramnad, M.L.C.
(6) M.R.Ry. B. Mahabala Hegde Avargal, M.L.C.
(7) ,, P. N. Marthandam Pillai Avargal, M.L.C.
(8) ,, R. Srinivasan Avargal, M.L.C.
(9) ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar Avargal, M.L.C.
(10) Janab Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur, M.L.C.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

R. W. DAVIES,
Secretary to Government.

To all departments of the Secretariat.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, all Secretaries of departments.
,, all members of the Public Accounts Committee.
,, the Secretary to the Legislative Council (for communication to the members of the Legislative Council).